

QUERIES.

FORCEPS asks where he can purchase at a moderate price or hire a "Phantom," such as is used by midwifery lecturers for giving practical instruction in the use of midwifery instruments, etc.

HOSPITAL FOR CHRONIC CASES.

DR. D. L. L. JONES writes: A young woman, who is a parish patient of mine, is suffering from spinal caries and is also subject to epileptic fits. She was discharged from a general hospital three months ago. I should feel obliged if you would give me, in the next issue of the JOURNAL, the addresses of any institutions to which such a case would be admitted, either for a time or permanently.

* * The absence of any provision, other than that afforded by the workhouse infirmaries for such cases, has recently been the subject of comment by several correspondents. The National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Queen's Square, W.C., and the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis, Regent's Park, N.W., receive epileptic patients for a few months, where there is a prospect of improvement.

TECHNICAL TRAINING OF ADULT DEAF-MUTES.

M.D. writes: I should be glad if you, or any of your readers, could give me advice in the following case, which I think will strongly commend itself to my brother practitioners.

F. A., aged 24, is one of three deaf and dumb children. His father, an aged medical man, is in very bad health, unable to practise, and in extremely poor circumstances. Is there any institution or place where F. A. might be taught a trade and be removed from the baneful influences which surround a life of idleness in a small country town?

ANSWERS.

B. H. A. (Member).—Certainly he is entitled to do so.

SUBSCRIBER.—The address of Moule's Patent Earth-Closet Company is 5A, Garrick Street, Covent Garden.

W. A. T.—The proposition seems to meet with no favour, and we can see no advantage in pushing it.

COTTAGE HOSPITALS.

W. A. T. and Dr. CAREY COOMES will get the information they require in a book on *Cottage Hospitals*, published by Churchill and Co., New Burlington Street.

HELMHOLTZ'S "SCIENCE OF MUSICAL SENSATIONS."

T. T.—*Die Lehre von den Tonempfindungen*, by Helmholtz, is published at Brunswick (Vieweg), price 12s. It can be obtained through Williams and Norgate, 14, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden. An English translation from the third edition, by Mr. Alex. A. J. Ellis, F.R.S., was published in 1875, price 30s., but this, it would appear, is out of print.

ADMINISTRATION OF NITROUS OXIDE TO EPILEPTICS.

INQUIRENS.—Nitrous oxide may usually be given with impunity to epileptics. This gas, however, will in some cases initiate a fit, so that such a contingency should be prepared against—gags secured, lest they drop into the larynx or pharynx; tongue guarded from injury, etc.

THE TREATMENT OF RESTLESSNESS DURING SLEEP.

M.R.C.S. writes: With regard to the case for which advice is sought by "A Member," in the JOURNAL of January 22nd, and for which a line of treatment is suggested by Dr. Lucas, I should like to ask "A Member" whether his little patient has an elongated prepuce, or if there is any difficulty in retracting the foreskin, and, if so, whether there is enlargement of the inguinal glands. Rocking of the head, as all know, often indicates very grave central disturbance, but oftener it arises from distal irritation, with subsequent, and no doubt consequent, central mischief.

NOTES, LETTERS, ETC.

SNAKE-WEED IN HYDROPHOBIA.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following: According to M. Kraskovsky (*Vratch*, No. 1, 1887, p. 13), a clergyman residing at Teliatchi, in the Vilna Government, the rhizome of snake-weed (*Polygonum bistortum* L., called by the Russians "Our Lady's root," and also "crawfish's tail") is successfully used by the Lithuanian peasantry as a prophylactic in cases of bite by rabid animals. In 1872, a rabid wolf bit a number of cows at M. Kraskovsky's village. All those animals which had been treated by snake-weed remained well and sound, while the others died from hydrophobia. In 1879, a mad dog bit several pigs and hens, and two peasants; the latter took the drug, and never fell ill, but the animals soon died. Professor V. A. Manassein thinks that it would be well to study the physiological properties of the root, which, in scientific medicine, is as yet employed only as a powerful astringent in the form of a decoction of 20 parts of snake-weed to 1,000 of water, which is used externally.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, ETC., have been received from:

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Transactions of the Association of American Physicians. Philadelphia; W. J. Dornan. 1886.
The Diseases of the Ear and their Treatment. By Dr. A. Hartmann. Translated by James Erskine, M.A., M.B. Illustrated. Edinburgh: Y. J. Pentland. 1887.
Rest and Pain. By the late John Hilton, F.R.S., F.R.C.S. Edited by W. H. A. Jacobson, B.A., M.B.Oxon., F.R.C.S. Fourth edition. London: George Bell and Sons. 1887.
Hip-Disease in Children, with special reference to its Treatment by Excision. By G. A. Wright, B.A., M.B.Oxon. Illustrated. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1887.
The Medical Annual, 1887. London: Hamilton, Adams and Co. 1887.

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