

## THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE IN FRANCE.

DR. DE VALCOURT, M.D. Paris, M.R.C.P. Lond., Physician (Cannes), writes: A recent letter of the *Ministre de l'Instruction Publique* was not clearly understood by the English public. I think useful to explain here the fact.

France is the most liberal country in Europe, and I believe the only one where foreigners are allowed to enjoy the same privileges as its own citizens. To be an M.D. in France, and to have the right to practise as such, one must be a *Bachelier-ès-Lettres*, as well as a *Bachelier-ès-Sciences*, and go through a course of five years medical studies, also pass several examinations, making in reality six years of hard medical study. Furthermore, a Frenchman is obliged to deposit his diplomas at the *mairie* of the town where he intends to set up in practice, and has also to pay the fee, or "*taxe de patente*," as it is termed.

We consider it is just that foreigners who, in their own country, have followed an equally complete course of studies, and have passed their "exams," and obtained their diploma, should be allowed to practise in France after payment of the said "*taxe de patente*," but it is very natural that English doctors should not be exempt from the law any more than French ones are; consequently, it cannot suffice that a medical man who, having gone through an incomplete course of studies, and possessing a second rate diploma in his own country, should have the right granted to him by favour to practise in France. All this is the more important as in general English doctors establishing themselves in France do not hesitate to attend, not only their own country people, but French, Russians, Germans, and other nationalities who may happen to require their services. In our winter resorts more especially are to be found every season any number of medical men who come out with invalids as their private physician, and who do not scruple to offer their services to other families inhabiting the same hotel, or residing in the same town as the patient, from whom he is well remunerated. In fact, a considerable number of English doctors frequent the hotels along our coast in quest of clients. Now these doctors have no legal right whatever, and do not even pay the tax required of them; however, this does not prevent their obtaining patients, though in a most irregular manner. These remind one forcibly of Offenbach's "*Table d'Hôte Major*" in "*La Vie Parisienne*," and might be termed "*table d'hôte doctors*." I do not for one moment suppose that it enters into the mind of anyone to approve of these underhanded proceedings.

To resume my subject, allow me to state, first, it has never been a question of changing the present state of affairs with respect to the numerous English doctors who for years have settled at Cannes or elsewhere, and who have been authorised to practise, after passing certain "exams," and after paying the yearly tax to Government. It is therefore perfectly false to lead the minds of the British public to suppose they will in future be deprived of the medical advice to which they have hitherto been accustomed. Secondly, it is much to be desired that the French Government should only grant the right, after a short "exam," to practise to those English doctors who possess diplomas that come up to the same standard as those awarded by the French medical faculty, and who are willing to pay the same tax as French doctors are obliged. By these means some sort of arrangement could be made, but at the same time all abuses must be repressed.

## TREATMENT OF CYSTITIS.

T. M. R. writes: Having not infrequently had experience of the obstinate nature of cystitis, I have recently been quite charmed by the marked good effected by balsam of copaiba. I had never tried it before, but, reasoning on its effects in gonorrhoea as well as in some cases of bronchitis, I resolved to give it a trial; this I did in doses *ter die* of *mij*, along with liq. potassæ *inix*, suspended in a little mucilage of gum tragacanth; the patient, a middle-aged lady, who had for some weeks taken *inf. buchu* in two-ounce doses three times a day, along with liq. potassæ and tinct. hyoseyami, felt relief with the very first dose, and in the course of a week was almost perfectly well; the case is, however, so recent that I am still keeping up the treatment.

Perhaps "J. R. B. K." may find my observation of service; if he does, I should be glad to hear from him. I presume "J. R. B. K." has made sure of the absence of calculus.

## COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:

Mr. A. Whyte, Brecon; Messrs. Mansell and Co., London; Dr. W. Squire, London; Dr. J. H. Jackson, London; Professor C. Roy, Cambridge; Mr. T. L. Laxton, Bridgwater; Dr. W. Reid, Gosport; Mr. R. J. Godlee, London; Dr. A. Davaine, Paris; Mr. Adams Frost, London; Mr. G. D. Smith, Salisbury; Dr. Vacher, Birkenhead; Mr. C. K. Butt, Hampton Hill; Mr. T. L. K. Davies, Glen Menai; J. E. Gemmell, M.B., Liverpool; Dr. J. G. McKendrick, Glasgow; Pollex; Dr. F. Bagshawe, St. Leonard's-on-Sea; Exodus; Rusticus; Dr. T. D. Acland, London; Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., London; Mr. J. Ringwood, Kells; Dr. G. Thin, London; Mr. F. Godfrey, Scarborough; A.B.; Dr. J. MacLintock, Bradford; Veritas; Mr. M. H. Lush, Fyfield; Mr. R. Irvine, Granton; Messrs. E. Street and Co., London; Dr. I. Owen, London; Mr. W. O. Steinthal, Rochdale; Microbe; Mr. G. Daizell, London; Dr. Leslie Phillips, Birmingham; Mr. H. R. Swanzy, Dublin; Mr. Morton Smale, London; The Secretary of the Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby; Dr. T. Partridge, Stroud; Mr. G. S. Stansfield, Birkenhead; Dr. B. Rake, Trinidad; Mr. W. A. Thomson, Amptill; Mr. A. H. Beuson, Dublin; Mr. F. C. Wood, Nottingham; Sir Henry Acland, Oxford; Dr. F. Pollard, Upper Tooting; Dr. Rentoul, Liverpool; Mr. G. B. Browne, London; Dr. W. Donovan, Erdington; Dr. Myrtle, Harrogate; Dr. T. Cranston Charles, London; Dr. F. H. Collins, Manchester; J. W. F.; Dr. J. Barr, Liverpool; Mr. G. R. Tweedie, Broadstairs; Dr. Saundby, Birmingham; The Dean of the Guy's Hospital Medical School, London; Mr. C. Begg, Edinburgh; Another Member B.M.A.; Surgeon-Major J. I. Greene, Alexandria; Mr. C. E. Abbott, Baintree; Mr. T. R. Allinson, London; Mr. C. E. Jennings, London; Messrs. Hertz and Collingwood, London; Dr. C. W. S. Barrett, Hincley; The Honorary Secretary of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, London; Mr. J. P. Wills, Bexhill-on-Sea; Dr. H. C. C.

McNeill, Dover; Dr. P. C. Smith, Motherwell; Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbridges and Co., London; Dublin Student from 1883-88; Our Manchester Correspondent; F. Kendall, M.B., St. Mary Bourne; Dr. W. A. Garry, Thornhill; Messrs. Rayner and Cassell, London; Sir R. Thompson, London; Dr. G. R. Williamson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dr. Fuiss, Netherton; Mr. F. W. Measures, Tadmorden; Mr. E. J. George, Port Isaac; The Director-General of the Naval Medical Department, London; Mr. M. Hughes, Croydon; T. N. Kelyack, M.B., Manchester; Dr. A. B. Hill, Birmingham; Dr. Edridge-Green, London; Dr. E. Percy Smith, London; Dr. F. Dick, Lancaster; Fair Play; Dr. Paget, Salford; Dr. Edwards, London; Mr. F. Cane, Letterkenny; Dr. B. H. Hardwicke, Llantwit Major; Mr. E. Nettleship, London; Mr. A. Hulme, Birmingham; Mr. C. B. Keetley, London; Messrs. Thurbers, Gates and Co., London; Mr. E. M. Keely, Nottingham; Mr. H. H. Tomkins, Ramsey; Dr. R. Barnes, London; Dr. W. H. Fenton, London; Mr. R. Draper, London; Dr. J. Anderson, London; Mr. J. Joakim, Edinburgh; Dr. Balding, Roydon; Dr. G. Henty, London; Mr. St. Vincent Mercier, London; Dr. P. Boobyer, Nottingham; Dr. W. Bruce, Dingwall; Dr. J. Wylie, Hull; Justitia; The Secretary of the Sheffield Medico-Chirurgical Society; Dr. M. T. Sadler, Barnsley; Dr. S. W. Smith, Cheltenham; Dr. J. W. Carr, London; Dr. Brailley, London; Our Liverpool Correspondent; Mr. J. West, London; Mr. R. E. Durdin, Hungerford; Our Paris Correspondent; Dr. O. T. Woods, Killarney; Mr. W. P. Bridges, Devall, India; C. C. Caleb, M.B., Lahore; I.V.R.C.; Dr. B. Poulton, Adelaide; X.; Surgeon-Major T. H. Hendley, Jeypore; Mr. J. Bland Sutton, London; Dr. F. E. Pocock, London; Mr. J. W. Williams, London; An Irish Physician; Dr. F. T. Henston, Dublin; The Secretary of the Sanitary Institute, London; Dr. W. Dale, King's Lynn; Mr. A. Churchward, South Norwood; Lieutenant C. W. D. Beresford, Harrogate; Dr. C. W. Haig-Brown, Godalming; W. G. Stevens, M.B., Renfrew; T. Bell, M.B., Worcester; Mr. C. Macnamara, London; Mr. W. G. N. Burney, London; Dr. F. C. Turner, London; Mr. M. Rooke, Cheltenham; Professor F. J. Bell, London; Dr. S. Smyth, Bournemouth; J. A. D.; Mr. W. Pye, London; Mr. A. Cooper, London; Dr. Poulton, Adelaide; Dr. J. Reid, Melbourne; Dr. J. Farquhar, Burbage; Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, London; Mr. C. R. Laurie, Loughton; Surgeon-Major T. H. Hendley, Jeypore; Dr. G. Johnson, London; Messrs. Lynch and Co., London; etc.

## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

New Zealand for the Emigrant, Invalid, and Tourist. By John Murray Moore, M.D., M.R.C.S. London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, and Rivington. 1890.  
Syphilis et Santé Publique. Par T. Barthélemy. Paris: J. B. Baillière et Fils. 1890.  
The Young Practitioner: His Code and Tariff. By Jukes de Styrap, M.K.Q.C.P., etc. London: H. K. Lewis. 1890.  
A Textbook of Animal Physiology. By Wesley Mills, M.A., M.D. New York: D. Appleton and Co. London: W. Allen and Co. 1890.  
Asthma Considered specially in Relation to Nasal Disease. By E. Schmiegelow, M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1890.  
A Handbook for Operators in Medical Electricity and Massage. By H. Newman Lawrence, A.I.E.E. London: George Gill and Sons.  
Habit and Health. By Guy Beddoes. London: Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1890.  
Health Troubles of City Life. By George Herschell, M.D. Second edition. London: Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1890.

## SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL."

|                       |     |     |     |        |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Seven lines and under | ... | ... | ... | £0 3 6 |
| Each additional line  | ... | ... | ... | 0 0 4  |
| A whole column        | ... | ... | ... | 1 15 0 |
| A page                | ... | ... | ... | 5 0 0  |

An average line contains seven words.

When a series of insertions of the same advertisement is ordered, a discount is made on the above scale in the following proportions, beyond which no reduction can be allowed.

|                                  |     |     |              |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
| For 6 insertions, a deduction of | ... | ... | 10 per cent. |
| " 12 or 13 "                     | ... | ... | 20 "         |
| " 26 "                           | ... | ... | 25 "         |
| " 52 "                           | ... | ... | 30 "         |

Special terms for occasional change of copy during series:

|   |     |       |                     |
|---|-----|-------|---------------------|
| 20 per cent. if not less than 26 pages be taken | ... | ...   | or their equivalent |
| 25 "  | ... | 52 "  | in half or          |
| 30 "  | ... | 104 " | quarter pages.      |

For these terms the series must, in each case, be completed within twelve months from the date of first insertion.

Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager at the Office, not later than noon on the Wednesday preceding publication; and, if not paid for at the time, should be accompanied by a reference.

Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the British Medical Association at the West Central Post-Office, High Holborn. Small amounts may be paid in postage-stamps.

NOTICE.—Advertisers are requested to observe that it is contrary to the Postal Regulations to receive at Post-Offices letters addressed to initials only.