

## AN UNUSUAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE RADIAL ARTERY.

H. GOODWYN, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., writes: I believe the distribution of the radial artery which occurred in a patient of mine to be sufficiently rare to be worth recording.

The artery in the forearm, instead of following its usual course, became at the junction of the middle and lower third of the radius quite superficial, passed over the tendon of the supinator longus and other posterior aspect of the bone, and thence continued downwards in a somewhat tortuous manner to the space between the tendons of the extensor ossis metacarpi and extensor secundi internodii pollicis, where it disappeared. There was no vessel following the usual course, and the superficialis volæ appeared to be absent. The artery in the other arm was normal. Gray's *Anatomy* mentions that such an abnormality does occur occasionally.

## ARMY DOCTORS AND CIVIL PRACTITIONERS.

HOPE writes: Some practitioners complain of the opposition of (ex?) army and navy surgeons in private practice. But why should not the Association induce the Government to give those of their medical brethren who have spent the best years of their lives in naval or military employ the preference for suitable billets in the gift of the Admiralty and War Office? The Naval Medical Regulations of 1885 (paragraph 22) give a distinct promise to the above effect. Is this done, or is it only intended as a lure to catch the "wily" candidate? The late committee on army medical matters, *au contraire*, actually advises Government to give the preference to civil surgeons for charge of troops at home stations; but surely retired army surgeons, who have borne the heat and burthen of the service, are entitled to as much consideration at least as retired naval surgeons. Were "good" ex-naval and military "doctors" who have done their duty encouraged by being given some of the many billets in the gift of the Government for which their training and experience especially suit them, we would hear far less of this competition in private practice, whilst being a distinct gain to both services by keeping men in suitable employ, preventing them from getting rusty.

## THE MOON FUND.

DR. HORROCKS, Treasurer (26, St. Thomas's Street, Southwark, S.E.) sends the following further subscriptions to the above fund received since the publication of the last list. The list will close on March 31st.

	£	s.	d.
G. G. Bothwell, L.R.C.P.	...	...	2 2 0
W. Nicholson, M.D.	...	...	1 1 0
S. L. Dobie, L.R.C.P., Secunderabad, India	...	...	1 1 0
	4	4	0

## CASE OF CONGENITAL SYPHILIS WITH ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT.

DR. W. F. GRANT (Mile End Road, E.) writes: The patient was a boy, 3 months old. The right side of the face was curiously malformed. The ascending ramus of the lower jaw was absent, the right ear being represented by an imperfect auricle, with a small dimple to mark the site of the external auditory meatus. The child while under my care developed an attack of pemphigus, and died soon after from exhaustion.

## LIFE ASSURANCE AND MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

MR. J. CORNBILL, M.R.C.S., L.A.C. (Ifracombe) writes: As proposals are now being made to modify in some way the method of life assurance, may I suggest, through the JOURNAL, that while it would be most undesirable to dispense with a medical examination, it would be well to stipulate in the policy that the amount insured would not be paid if death resulted from phthisis within a given time, say eighteen months after the insurance was effected; the premiums paid being simply returned with interest in such cases. I mention this because a family history of phthisis is sometimes concealed from the referee. A most strict inquiry should be made by companies' agents into the habits of the insurer, as in cases of intemperance much information may be withheld.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OUR correspondents are reminded that prolixity is a great bar to publication and, with the constant pressure upon every department of the JOURNAL brevity of style and conciseness of statement greatly facilitate early insertion. We are compelled to return or hold over a great number of communications, chiefly by reason of their unnecessary length.

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

Mr. A. Ledlie, Belfast; Dr. G. S. Woodhead, Edinburgh; Messrs. Attwood, Binsted and Co., London; Dr. E. Berdoe, London; Surgeon L. W. Swabey, Aldershot; Dr. Hugh Woods, London; Dr. E. Paget Thurstan, Orotava; Mr. J. R. Essex, Pontypool; Our Glasgow Correspondent; A Country Member; Mr. T. L. Laxton, Bridgwater; Mr. J. Downing, London; Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse, Leeds; Professor T. Walley, Edinburgh; Surgeon A. de C. Scanlan, Sandgate; Mr. D'Arcy Power, London; Mr. Johnson Smith, London; Mr. Adams Frost, London; Mr. J. G. Colmer, London; W. Gemmell, M.B., Belvidere; Dr. G. B. Mead, Newmarket; Dr. Patteson, Dublin; Dr. P. S. Abraham, London; Mr. F. M. Pope, Leicester; Mr. J. Binks, Wakefield; Dr. C. Macdowell, Carlisle; Mr. J. Y. Macalister, London; Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., London; Dr. J. F. J. Sykes, London; Mr. Lawson Tait, Birmingham; Dr. Ralph Stockman, Edinburgh; Mr. M. Baudouin, Paris; Surgeon C. E. Nichol, Fermoy; The Honorary Secretary of the Medical Society of London; Mr. E. Millais, London; Mr. E. White Wallis, London; Dr. E. Seaton, London; Messrs. Cassell and Co., London; Dr. A. M. Dunn, Preston; Mr. H. A. Reeves, London; The Secretary of

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## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Micro-organisms with Special Reference to the Etiology of the Infective Diseases. By Dr. C. Flügge. Translated from the Second Thoroughly Revised Edition by W. Watson Cheyne, M.B. London: The New Sydenham Society. 1890.

Lectures on Children's Diseases. By Dr. E. Henoch. Volume Second. Translated by John Thomson, M.B., F.R.C.P. Edin. London: The New Sydenham Society. 1889.

Browning's Message to his Time. By Edward Berdoe, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Edin. London: Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1890.

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