## NOTES, LETTERS, Etc.

READERS of Little Lord Fauntleroy will hear with regret that the original of that fascinating creation died recently of consumption. He was the son of Dr. Swan M. Burnett, of New York, and had been brought to Europe by his mother, the popular novelist, in hope of a cure for his

THE climate of the Outer Hebrides was not only 16 degrees warmer than that of London from December 10th to 24th, but it was also more equable. This warmth at the northern stations was felt also more or less on the east cost of Scotland. This difference was due to the effects of oceanic warmth, and not to the mere direction of the wind

CONSUMPTION OF QUININE IN AMERICA.

AN American contemporary states that while the annual supply of quinine for the whole world is estimated at 6,000,000 ounces, more than half that amount is consumed in the United States alone. Is it malaria or the fashionable craving for "pick me ups," of which a good deal has been heard lately, that is responsible for this large consumption of the drug 2.

Grug?

LAVATORIES IN RAILWAY CARRIAGES.

FOLLOWING the example of the Midland Railway, the directors of the Great Western Railway have decided to provide lavatories in connection with all classes on their long-distance trains. The travelling public will hall this change with satisfaction, and will hopefully expect its introduction on the other great lines of traffic. It is recommended alike by considerations of comfort and of health. To all it ensures a distinct gain in convenience, while for many sick and weak persons who may have to travel by rail, it signifies the satisfaction of a crying need.

need.

COLD BATHS.

OR. J. FARRAR (Gainsborough) writes: Anent the rather vigorous letter of Dr. W. Gordon Stables on this subject, in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of January 10th (p. 99), and in support of his contention, it may perhaps interest your readers to peruse the following paragraph from the last edition of my little book on Buths and Buthing, recently published. It is mentioned to illustrate the fact that: "A man who has all his life been accustomed to the habitual morning dip, appears to be able to despise alike both cold water and the cold piercing blasts of winter." The paragraph runs as follows:

"I have in my mind at present a gentleman, aged 86, who habitually, summer and winter alike, takes his cold bath on first rising in the morning; and he has never yet suffered from any complaint that could fairly be attributed to this daily practice of cold bathing. He never were an overcoat, in snow or rain, and no muffler; and he is able to take his daily morning walk, of at least three miles, no matter what the weather

daily morning walk, of at least three miles, no matter what the weather

is like."
I may add that this gentleman is still living, and that during the present severe weather, when it has been cold enough to keep ordinary old men between the blankets, he is up before the sun, and still has his usual dip, having to break the ice before creeping in.
Of course, while this is safe in one who has all his life been accustomed to the daily cold bath, the result would be very different in other cases, where such a practice has been habitually neglected.

WINTER BATHING IN THE SERPENTINE.

IN reference to an article on Cold Water Baths in the Serpentine in Winter in the British Medical Journal of January 3rd, a correspondent writes: It may be stated that the water itself in the spaces broken in the ice was found to have a temperature of 31° F. That of the air on the banks was then about 20° F, during the day it was tried, so that really the bathers were plunging into warmer water than the air. This, he adds, may therefore account for the stoicism and innocuousness of the bathing marvel.

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## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

A Textbook of Chemical Physiology and Pathology. By W. D. Halliburton, M.D., B.Sc. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1891.

Aphorisms in Applied Anatomy and Operative Surgery. By Thomas, Cooke, B.A., M.D. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1891.

Hygiene and Public Health. By B. Arthur Whitelegge, M.D., B.Sc. London: Cassell and Co. 1890.

A Memorial of O. W. Wright, A.M., M.D. By J. S. Wright, M.D. Cambridge: The Riverside Press. 1890.

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