will show whether in the process of cure an apparently local, is transformed into a decidedly constitutional, disease.

As yet, the results of what must still be regarded as experimental research can scarcely be sufficient to decide the point as to whether a person apparently cured by Professor Koch's method ought to marry. This is a social question that must crop up sooner or later.

Should the celebrated doctor be successful—as everyone hopes—in giving the world a successful means of checking phthisis in its early stages, it will go far to prove that the Christiania professor was not very far wrong in seeking to check a foul disease by loathsome treatment, and will lead to further researches in the same direction, to discover a remedy for syphilis, a disease that can scarcely be considered secondary to phthisis in its far-reaching effects.

THE SPECIFIC GRAVITY OF THE BLOOD IN DISEASE.

DR. S. MONCKTON COPEMAN (Physiological Laboratory, St. Thomas's Hospital), writes: In my report on this subject, which recently appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL. I find I unwittingly misrepresented a point of some importance relating to the work of Mr. Lloyd Jones on the specific gravity of the blood. In speaking of the composition of the fluids used by Dr. Sherrington and myself, I quote from the British MEDICAL JOURNAL of 1888, vol. ii, p. 1.345, the statement of Lloyd Jones that his solutions consisted of glycerine and water, but on referring to his paper in the Journal of Physiology, I find that he recommends in addition the use of some antiseptic, such as thymol or corrosive sublimate. Such addition is most essential, as otherwise the specific gravity of the solutions is liable to considerable alteration in the course of time, which is the reason for my laying stress on the matter. I freely admit that I ought not to have been satisfied with a reference to one of Mr. Lloyd Jones's articles only, and beg to offer him a sincere apology for my unintentional error. for my unintentional error.

Wood Wool Sponges.

T. Henderson Pounds, F.R.C.S.Eng. (Derby) writes: Having been hitherto dissatisfied with the ordinary artificial sponges in general use, I have for some time past been experimenting with different sponge substitutes, with the aim of getting a cheap, antiseptic. and highly absorbent sponge. I find that Hartmann's wood wool enclosed in a layer of sublimate gauze is far and away the best substance I have tried. I may mention that both wood wool and gauze are impregnated with 0.25 per cent. of corrosive sublimate.

FRENCH MEDICAL PAPERS.

FRENCH MEDICAL PAPERS.

FROM a publisher's catalogue recently issued it appears that there are no fewer than 145 medical newspapers and magazines published in Paris alone. This series does not include five serials on veterinary medicine and nine on pharmacy, nor several purely biological reviews; five provincial papers at least are mentioned in this list. A small journal can be "run" very cheaply in Paris, and a band of medical men or even a single physician or surgeon may maintain a paper for the advancement of their views. of their views.

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Yearbook of Treatment for 1891. London: Cassell and Co.

Psychologie de l'Idiot, et de l'Imbécile. Par le Dr. Paul Sollier. Paris : Felix Alcan. 1891.

Mikrophotographischer Atlas der Bakterienkunde. Von Dr. Carl Fraenkel und Richard Pfeiffer. Neunte und zehnte Lieferung. Berlin: August Hirschwald. 1891.

Annual Report of the Supervising Surgeon-General of the Marine Hospital Service of the United States for the Fiscal Year 1890. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1890.

Our Baby. By Mrs. Langston Hewer. Bristol: John Wright and Co.

The Intracranial Circulation and its Relation to the Physiology of the Brain. By James Cappie, M.D. Edinburgh: James Thin. 1890. The Barbarity of Circumcision. By Herbert Snow, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1890.

Body, Parentage, and Character in History. By Furneaux Jordan, F.R.C.S., London: Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co. 1890.

Saint Bartholomew's Hospital Reports. Edited by W. S. Church and W. J. Walsham, F.R.C.S. Vol. XXVI. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.,

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