

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

MR. FREDERICK J. GANT (Consulting Surgeon to the Royal Free Hospital) writes: As no notice may have been sent you of the entertainment given by the Amateur Dramatic Club of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on behalf of the rebuilding fund of the Royal Free Hospital, may I be permitted to at least personally express the warm thanks which are due to the club for the extreme kindness which prompted a large and rich hospital thus to aid a smaller and less independent neighbour? That the entertainment at St. George's Hall, April 9th, was a great success, before a crowded audience, is known to all, the comedy, *Our Guard*, being represented and placed upon the stage without a flaw. The many points of humour and pathos in the comedy were fully appreciated. The lady orchestra equally well acquitted themselves in the selections of music.

"SHAKING AT THE PIT OF THE STOMACH."

DR. ARVID KELIGREN (London) calls our attention to a printer's error in the notice of the "Technic of Ling's System of Manual Treatment," published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of April 11th. In the quotation "Vibration over the apex of the heart has the effect of a stronger, better, and quicker beat," "quicker" should read "quieter."

He adds: You give as a quotation from my book in regard to the manipulation of shaking at the pit of the stomach, that, "as the solar plexus commands the circulation in the abdomen, we may readily understand that this manipulation must indeed have a great effect," whereas the entire sentence, of which this is only the tail end, reads as follows: "As the stomach and its continuation, the duodenum, have involuntary muscles in their walls which are more sensitive to stimulation by reason of their tendency to automatic contraction, and as the solar plexus commands the circulation in the abdomen, we may readily understand that this manipulation must indeed have a great effect" (page 39), and anyone who has the least medical knowledge will easily see the material difference between my statement and your qualification.

HALVIVA.

MR. M. A. GILLOW, M.R.C.S. (Hampstead, N.W.) writes: I have read with much interest the remarks of Dr. G. Yeates Hunter on this most valuable remedy, and can endorse fully his views. During forty years' practice I have searched in vain for a medicine equal to quinine for good and without its risks for evil. Though now retired from active work, I have tried krait halviva during the last six months in many and varied cases, and with most satisfactory results. It pulls up the system quickly after severe colds and influenza. It fortifies the nerves against epidemics; it checks neuralgic pains, stimulating the liver and bowels at the same time—the reverse of quinine—and it supplies the place of alcohol to those who have the habit of excess. In these latter most painful cases I can honestly recommend halviva as a boon of rare value; it not only allays the morbid craving, but it builds up the shattered frame. For this end it should be given in full doses of 30 drops in a little hot water three or four times daily!

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

An Introduction to the Study of Mammals Living and Extinct. By W. H. Flower, C.B., F.R.S., and Richard Lydekker, B.A., F.G.S. London: Adam and Charles Black. 1891.
Yearbook of the Scientific and Learned Societies of Great Britain and Ireland. Eighth annual issue. London: Charles Griffin and Co. 1891.
Our Canine Companions in Health and Disease. By J. Woodroffe Hill. London: Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1891.
Transactions of the Obstetrical Society of London, Vol. xxxii, for the year 1890. Published by the Society. 1891.
Beiträge zur Pathologie und Therapie der Gallensteinkrankheit. Von Dr. J. Kraus. Berlin: A. Hirschwald. 1891.
Étude Historique sur les Organes Génitaux de la Femme. Par Gabriel Peillon. Paris: O. Berthier. 1891.
A Short Dictionary of Medical Terms. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1891.
Fever: its Pathology and Treatment by Antipyretics. By Hobart Amory Hare, M.D., B.Sc. Philadelphia and London: F. A. Davis. 1891.
Primer Congreso Médico Regional de la Isla de Cuba. Habana: A. Alvarez y Compañía. 1890.

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