

layers of carbolised or plain gauze bandage are applied around the fractured limb. These equalise the pressure on the blood-vessels, and enable the limb better to withstand the heat of the paraffin. The paraffin-saturated cotton-wool is removed, unrolled to its original state, and when its heat will permit the back of your hand to be applied to it without discomfort, it is applied to the limb, when its pliable condition will allow its fitting the shape of the leg and foot. Over this, another layer or two of gauze bandage is applied, to express the superfluous paraffin, and cause the splint to fit comfortably. The splint is now made. The setting may be hastened by pouring cold water over it, or by wrapping towels wrung out of the same fluid round it, when the setting will be accomplished in a few minutes. Any particular disposition of the limb can easily be held by holding the limb in the desired position while the paraffin is setting. The splint can be left on the limb till the fracture be thoroughly united, or it can be cut up the side, and laced; this is better done before the setting has taken place. Sayre's jackets are made after the same principle, cotton-wool being substituted for the bandages.

E. T. T.—We admit fully the good intentions of our correspondent, but think it would be better to avoid the advertisement of private clubs, by printed slips of rules, as such a course is sure to lead to the issue of similar documents by other practitioners, and ultimately to a lowering of professional status in the district. Printed rules and other circulars are tolerated by the profession only in the case of hospitals, dispensaries, and clubs, where there is a responsible committee of management, and where the vacancies in the medical staff are open to competition.

SUPPLEMENTARY MAMMÆ.

SIR,—The description of a third mamma of a woman may be interesting to anatomists. As I see no mention of such in Gray's *Anatomy*, it must be of a very rare occurrence.

On the third day after the delivery of a primipara, she complained of a pain caused by a little black hard lump under her left breast, which the person had always regarded as a mole. On carefully looking at this lump, it presented a little nipple; a dark areola surrounded it, and a globular swelling beyond that. On squeezing the swelling towards the centre—the nipple—milk exuded freely. I told the woman not to suckle this, but to keep the child to the normal breast above. Since the child has sucked this breast, the third or supplementary mamma has become empty, and gives no pain or uneasiness. In the event of a stoppage to the secretion of milk in the left normal breast at a subsequent confinement, this third or supplementary mamma would perhaps become very useful for lactation.—I am, etc., JOHN E. GARNER.

Preston, November 29th, 1880.

*. The occasional occurrence of supernumerary breasts is referred to in Quain's *Anatomy*, 8th edition, vol. ii, p. 488: "An additional mamma is sometimes met with, and even four or five have been observed to co-exist; the supernumerary glands being most frequently near the ordinary pair, but sometimes in a distant part of the body."

DR. HIME (Sheffield).—Shall have early insertion, with others on the like topic.

QUERY (Warrington) does not give his name and address; no notice, therefore, can be taken of his communication.

GLOVES FOR WET WEATHER.

A. F. recommends a pair of the ordinary worsted ringwood gloves, over which a large pair of dogskin gloves is drawn.

DR. C. P. COOMBS (Castle Cary) recommends thick knitted gloves for wet weather; while for cold weather he finds nothing so good as a pair of black fur gloves lined with lambs'-wool. A pair of these, costing five or six shillings, will last three or four winters.

WANTED, A SITUATION.

SIR,—Would any of your readers kindly inform me as to the position a medical man holds as medical officer to a Friendly Societies' Association in England? what the duties are? and if such an appointment is hard to obtain? Any hints on the above will oblige.—Yours truly, M. B.

J. C. M. (Scotland).—We think it extremely unlikely that the Association would undertake any enterprise of the sort, which is foreign to its objects; but any communication on the subject should be addressed to the Committee of Council, of which Dr. Alfred Carpenter, of Croydon, is chairman.

GENERAL PRACTITIONERS AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.

SIR,—Since the publication of my letter on the above-named subject, I have learned for the first time that a similar suggestion was made to the British Medical Association by Dr. Ogle, of Derby, in 1871, and repeated by him at the meeting of the Sanitary Institute in 1878. Not only was I not aware that such a proposal had ever been made, but I was agreeably surprised to learn, from the letter of Dr. de Wolf, that the favourite objection of stolid conservatism to every reform—that of impracticability—is in this instance already forestalled by the actual success of the system in the colony of Newfoundland. The fact that I, in common with others unknown to me, have independently arrived at the views advanced in my letter is, I think, a striking confirmation of the truth and value of the principle contended for. My suggestion differs, however, in at least one important respect from that of Dr. Ogle. He would charge the extra fees for extraordinary visits; I would base the extra remuneration on extraordinary work, or in other words, on the nature of the services rendered, and not on the circumstances of the visit. This distinction between ordinary and extraordinary work is, I think, more definite and tangible than that proposed by Dr. Ogle, while it has the additional recommendation of being already in daily and successful use in clubs in all parts of the country. The reform now called for is simply and in brief the extension of the club system to those classes of society whose members can afford to pay us adequately for our services, with this addition, that the medical attendant should be retained, and regarded as the constant adviser on all matters that pertain to the maintenance of health.

I cannot anticipate any active opposition by the profession to a scheme so obviously beneficial and so reasonable; nor can I hope for its unanimous adoption for some time to come. The trammels of professional custom are too strong to permit a spontaneous change on the part of the mass; but the resistance will be nothing but inertia. The first thing to be done, it seems to me, is to put the matter fairly before the public, and they will soon demand the change. Some individuals, both lay and medical, must lead, and the great majority will gradually follow.—I am, etc., W. F. PHILLIPS.

SUBSCRIBER.—The licence of the Apothecaries' Society gives no right to the title of surgeon. Our correspondent may address, on the subject, Mr. R. H. S. Carpenter, L.R.C.P., 130, Stockwell Road, S.W.

TREATMENT OF PRURITUS SCROTI.

SIR,—In your JOURNAL of (I think) 1875, I drew attention to the fact that the ointment of salicylic acid, properly prepared, was a specific for pruritus scroti. This fact I have subsequently verified in many cases; and in the East and in the Red Sea, I found it equally as efficacious as in colder climates. I may also mention that it is a specific for prickly heat. I prepare it with oleum thymobromæ, cetaceum, and oleum amygdalæ dalcis; and, when made correctly, one ounce by weight should rather more than fill a two-ounce pot. The proportion of acid varies from forty to sixty grains to the ounce.—I am, sir, etc., PERCY WELLS.

36, Elgin Crescent, Notting Hill, W., November 29th, 1880.

ERRATA.—In the JOURNAL for November 27th, p. 841, col. 2, line 36, for "rings and" read "region of"; and in the last line but one of the same paragraph, for "temperance" read "teetotal". At line 10 from bottom, for "test", read "rest"; p. 842, col. 2, line 4 from bottom, omit "and" before "made", and insert "and" before "sixteen".

IF E. J. T. will forward us a copy of the rules and the accompanying document, we will submit it to a good authority on the subject.

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

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A Text-Book of Practical Medicine. By Dr. Felix Von Niemeyer. Translated from the German Edition (by special permission of the Author) by George H. Humphreys, M.D., and Charles E. Hackley, M.D. Two vols. Revised edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1880.

A Treatise on the Practice of Medicine, for the Use of Students and Practitioners. By Roberts Bartholow, M.A., M.D., LL.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1880.

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