

CORRESPONDENTS are particularly requested by the Editor to observe that communications relating to advertisements, changes of address, and other business matters, should be addressed to the Manager, at the Journal Office, 161A, Strand, London, and not to the Editor.

PRACTITIONERS IN THE MAURITIUS.

Sir,—I have the pleasure of sending you one of the Mauritius daily papers, in which you will find that, in August, 1880, a Mr. L. was prosecuted at Port Louis, and sentence passed against him, for practising with a diploma from Madras, with which he would certainly not have been entitled to practise in England or France.

I hope that this fact will prove that quacks and unqualified men are not allowed to practise with impunity in Mauritius, and will also prevent those belonging to this category to venture going there with the hopes that they would be as little unmolested as they would in England; and they would certainly not bless your correspondent, who seems very badly informed on Mauritius and the medical profession there.

Apologising for the valuable space I have taken, and also thanking you for the hospitality afforded to me by you to reprove the false assertions made on my native country, I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

A. N. JOLLIVET, University College Hospital, London.

THE EFFECT OF REMOVAL OF THE TONSILS UPON THE TESTES.

Sir,—The other day a medical friend mentioned to me that, having excised a patient's tonsils, he was surprised to learn that, shortly after the operation, the patient's wife became pregnant. As the lady had not been in that condition for some years, it has been jokingly remarked that in cases of infecundity it would be well to try excision of the tonsils. The above fact corroborates Dr. Hague's surmise as mentioned in your last issue.—I am, etc.,

EDW. PINDER, L.R.C.P.

Camberwell, August 2nd, 1881.

SOLVENT FOR GALIC ACID.

Sir,—With the exception of the substance mentioned below, I am not aware of any means of dissolving gallic acid so as to be useful medicinally, but by alcohol and boiling water, both of which are practically useless. Having, a short time ago, a case of haematuria, the result of uric acid gravel, I chanced to prescribe a mixture containing half a drachm of gallic acid, and a drachm and a half of citrate of potash; and, to my surprise, I found that I had a perfectly clear liquid, the gallic acid being completely dissolved. I have since made further experiments; and I find that, with care, twenty grains of citrate will dissolve as much as fifteen grains of gallic acid in an ounce of water, and remain quite clear for any length of time. To be able to give gallic acid in perfect solution is a great advantage, as absorption must take place more rapidly when the salt is in solution than when simply suspended in mucilage; the citrate, being a very simple salt, can do no harm in any cases in which gallic acid is required.—I am, etc.,

Wells-next-the-Sea.

FREDERICK LONG, L.R.C.P. Lond.

LIFE ASSURANCE.

MR. DENNE (Birmingham) writes: "Inquirers" will find, in *The Medical Adviser in Life Assurance*, by Dr. Steveking, published by Churchill, much valuable information concerning the examination of candidates for life assurance.

MR. LOWNE writes: A little book by a Mr. Ingall, a well known actuary, published many years ago, *On the Medical Examination of Candidates for Life Assurance*, might be useful.

CORNS.

Sir,—Would any of my fellow members kindly recommend a reliable cure for corns (soft and hard, and especially for the latter), when occurring on the soles of the feet? Further, would they recommend a good (so-called) anatomical bootmaker, who could overcome peculiarities in the shape of the feet in manufacturing boots?—Yours, etc.,

SURGEON-MAJOR.

FISSURED TONGUE.

Sir,—With regard to Mr. Allen Fenning's case of "fissured tongue", from reading his description, it appears to me similar to a case in a lady whom I am occasionally called upon to treat; and, though the cure is not permanent, still the patient is relieved of the troublesome complaint for many months at a time. The treatment is as follows: Rx. Hydr. bichlor. gr. i. potassi: iodidi 3i: aquam ad 3i. M. Sumat 3ss. ter die.—I remain, yours respectfully,

L.K.Q.C.P.I.

OVARIOTOMY.

Sir,—Please insert the following suggestions to experts in ovariotomy cases. Tap the cyst through the bladder, at the same time inserting a drainage-tube into the cyst. The tube should have lateral openings, so as to carry away all the urinary secretions. Injections could be forced into the cyst if necessary. I am of opinion that the result will do away with the necessity of subjecting the patient to the painful and uncertain result of removing the ovary.—I am, sir, yours truly,

The Grove, Risca, August 1881.

EDW. ROBATHAN.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

Sir,—Following up the letters which have appeared in the JOURNAL on the advantage of manual labour in the training of youths (may I say of both sexes), I wish to say that my boy when he left school was slim and delicate. He went to engineering, and worked two years in the pattern shop, rising soon after five in the morning, all weathers. The result was a happy growth in height and muscular power. He has, during the last two years, been diligently studying medicine, and I am happy to say that he is not losing any of his physical force.—Yours ever,

A CONSULTING SURGEON.

A VEXED QUESTION.

Sir,—I am M.R.C.S.Eng. and L.R.C.P. Lond., and style myself "Mr. —, surgeon". My two neighbours are L.R.C.P.Ed., and style themselves "Dr. —" (men holding the L.K.Q.C.P.I. also invariably do the same thing). What, I ask, is the law and etiquette of this subject? I have several times heard it said of myself, "He cannot be a properly qualified doctor, or he would style himself such". What right in law or equity have these gentlemen to an advantage over me which is wholly fictitious, but which nevertheless "has money in it"?

I enclose card, and remain, yours, etc.,

VEDEX AND PERPLEXED.

* * * Neither has any legal right to the title of Doctor, and, so far as custom is concerned, our correspondent has equal right or absence of right with them. He is, however, entitled to describe himself as "Surgeon and Physician".

THERAPEUTICS OF NITRO-GLYCERINE.

Sir,—I have a case of angina pectoris, and wish to try nitro-glycerine. Will any of your readers advise me as to the proper dose, and the best method to administer it?—Yours, etc.,

T. D.

MATÉ.

SIR,—I read with great interest and pleasure a paragraph in last week's JOURNAL on maté. Having resided in the capital of the Argentine Republic (Buenos Ayres) for thirteen years, I can endorse all that has been said by Mr. Ernest Geldart of the good qualities of maté; and it has many times been a matter of surprise to me that this "yerba", or herb, has not found its way into England; for, besides being a cheap commodity, it is an invigorating and refreshing beverage, delicious in flavour, and, if once introduced into Great Britain, would, after a time, command an extensive sale and patronage, and, I have no doubt, would compete very favourably with tea or coffee. In the Argentine Republic, it is a very popular drink with all classes, and deservedly so. Its properties are stimulant in character.—I am, yours,

DAVID EDGAR FLINN, L.K.Q.C.P., etc.

Brownhills, Walsall, August 22nd, 1881.

MEDICAL ETIQUETTE.

A. and B. are practitioners in the same town, & not acquainted. A. is sent for during B.'s absence to attend one of his midwifery cases. Should A. remit the whole or half fee to B.? or what is the proper etiquette in such a case? A. being requested by the patient herself to continue the attendance, she also having sent for A. in the first instance.

* * * A. should hand the whole fee to B., and decline to continue attendance, expecting reciprocal courtesy from B. in any like circumstance.

H. N.—The readers of Addresses in Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics, etc., select their own subjects, and deal with them in their own way without communication with any other person, officially or unofficially, and without any suggestion or censorship. The Committee of Council select, in all cases, gentlemen of acknowledged eminence in their respective departments. The readers of addresses are alone responsible for the choice of subject, and the mode of dealing with it.

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

Mr. B. T. Lowne, London; Dr. F. T. Roberts, London; Dr. Hamilton, Liverpool; Dr. Ward Cousins, Southsea; Dr. Groves, Carisbrooke; Dr. J. Rogers, London; Mr. F. H. MacIver, Edinburgh; Dr. Brailey, London; Dr. Urquhart, Aberdeen; Mr. Henry Denne, Birmingham; Mr. G. Meadows, Hastings; Dr. Neal, Sandown; Dr. Ransome, Manchester; Dr. Williamson, Ventnor; Mr. G. Eastes, London; Mr. R. C. Gage, Scottown; Mr. J. F. Herring, Buithe; Dr. J. H. Scott, Camberley; Mr. W. Maile, Faversham; Mr. P. J. Lenihan, Salford; Mr. W. Whitton, Towcester; Mr. T. W. Barton, Maidstone; Professor Owen, Richmond; Mr. A. Selwar, Oakhill; Mr. H. Nelson Hardy, London; Mr. B. Blower, Liverpool; Dr. Thompson, Leamington; Mr. J. J. Byrne, Preston; Dr. Alexander, Halifax; Dr. James Edmunds (London); Dr. Saundby, Birmingham; Dr. E. L. Fox, Bristol; Dr. Cameron, Liverpool; Mr. C. R. Illingworth, Clayton-le-Moors; Dr. Tripe, London; Mr. D. E. Flinn, Brownhills; Dr. Williamson, Ventnor; Dr. Buchanan Baxter, London; Surgeon-Major Howard, Colchester; Dr. Dabbs, Shanklin; Dr. Davies, Wrexham; Mr. J. G. Marshall, London; Mr. Bindley (London); Mr. T. J. Verrall; Dr. Dukes, Rugby; Surgeon-Major E. R. Francis, M.B.; Dr. Crichton Browne, London; Mr. G. Martin, Ventnor; Dr. Radcliffe Crocker, London; Mr. A. P. Watkins, Worcester; Dr. W. Millard, Dunbar; Dr. A. Lynch, London; Mr. R. Clement Lucas, London; Dr. Crichton Browne, London; Mr. P. E. Hill, Crickhowell; Mr. James Long, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. Passmore, Brighton; Dr. Payne, London; Dr. U. Pritchard, London; Mr. T. W. Reid, Canterbury; Mr. Nelson Hardy, London; Dr. W. Easby, Cambridge; A Provincial Member, etc.

BOOKS, etc., RECEIVED.

Clinical Lectures on the Diseases of the Nervous System. By J. M. Charcot. London: New Sydenham Society. 1881.

Harrogate Waters. By Geo. Oliver, M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1881.

A Treatise on the Materia Medica and Therapeutics of the Skin. By H. G. Piffard, M.D. London: Sampson Low and Co. 1881.

Minor Surgical Gynecology: a Manual of Uterine Diagnosis. By P. F. Mundie, M.D. London: Sampson Low and Co. 1881.

Fashion in Deformity. By W. H. Flower. London: Macmillan and Co. 1881.

Mineral Thermal Springs. By G. H. Brandt. London: H. K. Lewis. 1881.

Manual of Dental Surgery and Pathology. By A. Coleman, L.R.C.P. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1881.

Essays on the Floating Matter of the Air. By J. Tyndall, F.R.S. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1881.

Annals of Chemical Medicine. By J. L. W. Thudichum, M.D. Vol. II. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1881.

Surgery for Dental Students. By A. S. Underwood. London: W. H. Allen and Co. 1881.

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