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.

THE MORPHIA HABIT.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Patient", by putting himself in communication with the undersigned, may probably learn something useful for his case. Space would not allow of answering him in the columns of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL—I Augustus Hess, M.D.

14, City Road, Finsbury Square, August 26th, 1881.

LIFE ASSURANCE AND SYPHILIS.

SIR,—I am in doubt whether a person who has had secondary symptoms, from which he has apparently perfectly recovered, can be considered a first-class life, and shall be glad of an opinion on the subject.—I remain, yours, etc., R. D.

Text-Books of Morbid Anatomy.—The chief text-books in English of morbid anatomy are Wilks and Moxon's Lectures on Pathological Anatomy (London, 1875); Handfield Jones and Sieveking's Manual of Pathological Anatomy, edited by Dr. Payne (London, 1875); Delafield's Hand-book of Post Morten Examinations, etc. (New York, 1872). Dr. Green's well known book is rather a Manual of Pathology then of Morbid Anatomy. Pathology than of Morbid Anatomy.

PLASTER-OF-PARIS CASTS.

Sir,—I shall be obliged if some member will, in your column for correspondents, give me a short description of the best way of taking plaster-of-Paris casts of hands, feet, etc.—I am, etc.,

Ζητητής.

NITRO-GLYCERINE.

NITRO-GLYCERINE.

SIR,—Allow me to say, in reply to "T. D.", in your JOURNAL of this date, that I have found the nitro-glycerine tablets prepared by W. Martindale, 10, New Cavendish Street, Portland Place, London, W., the most convenient and ready method of using nitro-glycerine. Each tablet contains 1-100th of a grain, which is quite sufficient to begin with. I have also used a one per cent. solution prepared by Corbyn and Co., of which I use one minim doses until I have ascertained the individual susceptibility to the influence of the drug.—Yours truly, Richmond House, Turvey, Beds, August 27th, 1881. WM. J. MACKIE.

The letters of Mr. R. H. S. Carpenter and Mr. Holthouse will appear in an early number.

Heifer Vaccine.

In inserting Dr. Braidwood's letter on Heifer Vaccine last week, his address—17,
Rodney Street, Liverpool—was accidentally omitted.

A VEXED QUESTION.

A Vexed Question.

Sir,—If your correspondent of this date, "Vexed and Perplexed", had been a careful reader of the British Medical Journal, he would have found, in the fellowing pages of that for the first half-year 1880 (viz., 681, 722, 761, 800, 841, 1010), carefully collected data embracing legal opinions quite sufficient to dissipate his perplexity. I trust, in addition to having his perplexity dissipated by the exposition of the law in some of the pages enumerated, your correspondent may also have his wexation allayed by additional practice, resulting from the resumption of his title of physician, which appears to have lain dormant since it was conferred upon him.—Yours truly,

Physician and Surgeon.

UNQUALIFIED PRACTITIONERS.

UNQUALIFIED PRACTITIONERS.

Str,—With reference to the practising of unqualified practitioners in the colonies, it seems to me that our colonial friends will gain little by bringing their complaints before the press of the mother country; for there are probably few parts of the world in which such persons can practise with so much impunity as they can in England. One of these men has been for years allowed to practise, without any registrable diploma, in a south-coast watering-place. He styles himself "Dr.", and lives in a grand house, drives a smart carriage and pair, and has one of the best practices in the town. He injures nobody except his patients and the qualified medical men of the town; and they probably do not like the invidious task of prosecuting him, as such a course would certainly be attributed to private spite. The Incorporated Law Society prosecutes men who falsely pretend to be solicitors; why cannot the Medical Council do the same to unqualified doctors? Is it too grand or too busy to be able to concern itself with the honour of the medical profession? or does it lack the necessary funds? If so, for what purpose are we made to contribute £5 ss. to its funds for registration?

It seems useless to agitate for direct representation, etc., when the Council does not carry out the obvious and elementary duty of prosecuting unqualified practitioners. A private society prosecutes (and very properly) a few poor fellows who manage "branch establishments" in the slums of London, on behalf of their employers; but why should the great offenders, who drive their carriages in fashionable watering-places, be allowed to go unpunished? I enclose my card, and remain, sir, your obedient servant,

A CARD.

A CARD.

The following advertisement from an Indian newspaper has been sent to us. "Card. Undersigned having obtained, direct from London, a consignment of pharmaceutical, patent, and proprietary medicines, also toilet requisites, is prepared, after a medical experience of thirty-eight years, to transact business as medical practitioner and dispenser on moderate terms. Francis John Grose, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England. The Poplars, Murree".

IMPACTED NEEDLE EXTRACTED BY MEANS OF THE MAGNET.

IMPACTED NEEDLE EXTRACTED BY MEANS OF THE MAGNET.

SIR,—Miss R. consulted me on the evening of July 30th respecting a portion of a large thread-needle that was impacted in the palm of her left hand, and informed me it had been there for a month; and that an endeavour had been made to extract it, when only the point was removed; also that two or three incisions had been made at intervals, and poultices applied.

Upon examination, I found a swelling over the seat of injury; every touch appeared to give pain, extending up the arm. Making a free incision, and probing the wound, I could not detect the needle, although she felt it prickling. I advised her to poultice the hand, and return in a day or two, when I would again see if I could reach it. As she was leaving, I casually said, "Get a magnet and place over the opening, and see if that will displace it". She returned to me on the Monday, and, with a smiling face, in her graphic way informed me "she had got it out"; and gave the following version.

"I got a common penny magnet, and, extending my hand upon the table,

while my brother for a few minutes held it over the opening, I soon felt a pricking movement, and, upon looking, found matter at the mouth of the wound. Presently, a small black speck was noticed, and, on still applying the magnet, it brought the point of the needle to view, and finally extracted it."

I saw the portion extracted; it was about half an inch long, quite black, and without the point. As this is an illustration how accidents of this nature can be mechanically assisted in their extraction, I have noted this case.—I remain, sir, yours truly,

Thos. W. S. Locke.

Little Sutton, Chester, August 9th, 1881.

Little Sutton, Chester, August 9th, 1881.

The Mote in One's Neighbour's Eye.

The following passage from *Wilhelm Meister* (Book 8) is worth the attention of those who, after attending a meeting on antivivisection, go home to a supper of lobsters and prawns. "The eagerness of the child, when he saw any living thing suffer injury, afforded the greatest satisfaction to his father, as the sign of an excellent disposition. The boy made a fierce onslaught on the kitchen-maid for cutting up some pigeons. This exalted conception was, however, soon demolished as he observed him, without the least mercy, beat frogs to death and tear butterflies to pieces. This trait reminded him of many men, who appear in the highest degree just when they are without passion and observe the dealings of others."

This is an example of the lines in *Hudibras*:

"Compound for sins they are inclin'd to,
By damning those they have no mind to."

G.

TEMPERATURE OF SWIMMING-BATHS.—Will any one, who is conversant with the subject, kindly tell me of what temperature the water of a tepid swimming-bath should be during spring, summer, autumn, and winter?—R. L. B.

THE INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE AND THE PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE ARMY MEDICAL OFFICERS.

-My fellow medical officers of the Indian army will hardly credit me, when I IR,—My fellow medical officers of the indian army will nardly credit me, when inform them that, by the decision of the committee at Whitehall, the proposed memorial to the menory of the army medical officers who fell in the campaigns in Afghanistan and Zululand, is to be confined to the officers of the Army Medical Department, and has not any reference to the memory of the officers of the Indian Medical Service; yet such is the case.

As far as I have been able to gather, twelve medical officers lost their lives from

As far as I have been able to gather, twelve medical officers lost their lives from wounds received in action, or from disease contracted during the campaign, whilst serving their country in Afghanistan. Of these, six belonged to the Indian army. The Indian Medical Defence Fund has done good service in pointing out how, under the specious guise of amalgamation, the military branch of the Indian Medical Service has been absolutely raised. It has, however, been reserved for the committee of the proposed memorial to show to the officers of the Indian Service that, notwithstanding this amalgamation of the two services under one Surgeon-General—always, be it remarked, belonging to the Army Medical Department—a memorial, which should have been common to all medical officers who fell in the campaign in Afghanistan, has been reserved exclusively for those of the Army Medical Department.

I would suggest, through the medium of your columns, that a committee be formed in India for erecting, likewise, a memorial to those surgeons of the Indian

formed in India for erecting, likewise, a memorial to those surgeons of the Indian army who lost their lives whilst serving their country in Afghanistan.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,
Andrew Duncan, M.D., B.S.Lond., F.R.C.S., Surgeon late attached to 8th Bengal Cavalry.

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

Dr. C. Y. Biss, London; Mr. J. Matthews, Liverpool; Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse, Leeds; Dr. J. Hill, London; Dr. P. H. McKellar, Stockwell; Mr. L. Lyddon, Ramsgate; Dr. C. A. Duckett, Great Yarmouth; Mr. E. Freer, Birmingham; Mr. W. H. Powell, Ross; Physician and Surgeon; Mr. G. D. Brown. Ealing; Mr. J. J. Archbold, Alnwick; Dr. J. Rogers, London; Dr. Hess, London; Dr. P. J. Macnamara, Bruff; Surgeon-General Francis, Clapham; Dr. W. Easby, Cambridge; A Provincial Member; Mr. A. D. MacDonald, Liverpool; Mr. W. Raine, Darlington; Dr. Denne, Edgbaston; A Southsea Member; Dr. Charles Mercier, London; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Dispenser; Mr. W. Sneddon, Beith; Mr. G. B. Collet, Worthing; Mr. C. H. Glassington, London; Mr. F. T. Good, St. Neots; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Dr. Turner, London; Mr. J. T. Mugford, New Quay; Mr. Hutton Castle, Newport, Isle of Wight; Mr. R. L. Batterbury, Berkhampstead; Dr. Braidwood, Liverpool; Mr. Horsfall, Leeds; Mr. T. H. Brooklehurst, Darley Dale; Dr. F. W. Bernard, London; Mr. Geo. Eastes, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. Gillespie, London; Mr. J. Ll Roberts, Denbigh; Mr. W. Lockhart, Blackheath; Mr. E. Owen, London; Dr. Cook, Manningtree; Dr. G. W. Hutchison, Chipping Norton; Mr. Clouting, Thetford; Dr. Ormsby, Dublin; Mr. S. Macvie, Chirnside; Mr. F. Rawle. Titchfield; Dr. H. L. Snow, London; etc.

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