

HYPODERMIC USE OF ERGOTIN.

SIR.—In reply to "Inquirer," I have used ergotin hypodermically for several years, principally in cases of hæmoptysis, and occasionally in *post partum* hæmorrhage, and can speak very highly of its effects. I do not remember using it more than twice in the day, the first injection usually having a decided effect on the hæmorrhage. In the case of a lady who died of phthisis, I used it very frequently; it always stopped the bleeding, and so marked was its effect, that the patient when sending for me for the hæmoptysis, always asked me to take the injection-case. In the case of a *post partum* hæmorrhage I have not used it so frequently, but always found it useful. I have never seen the injections, even when used separately, cause local disturbance more than with morphia. I use the following solution. The quantity for injection appears large, but I prefer it to a more concentrated solution. The formula I copied from, I believe, the pages of this JOURNAL some years ago.

Dissolve 200 grains of the extract of ergot in 250 minims of water by stirring, filter, and make up to 300 minims by washing the residue in the filter with water. Each minim represents six grains of powdered ergot, ten to twenty minims for a hypodermic injection.—Yours faithfully,
Whitby, June 5th, 1883. T. TINKLEY, M.R.C.P.E.

STATUS OF FOREIGN GRADUATES.

SIR.—It may probably interest your correspondent "M.D.Brussels," and scarcely less, perhaps, no inconsiderable section of the profession in this year 1883, to learn, as matter of historic fact, if not legal precedent for all time, that, as founder and first president of the "Association of Foreign Graduates" (1858) comprising, as it then did, nearly 500 of the best known medical men in Great Britain, I have had the good fortune, or otherwise, of being instrumental in the legal adjustment of the status of Continental M.D.'s in this country.

Dr. Thorn, of Harrow Road, was the able and zealous honorary secretary, who shared with myself protracted labour, cost, and anxiety on this question; and we numbered amongst us Fellows of Royal Societies, Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and other *savants*. Mostly, alas, like the hunter and the deer, a shade.

Coincidentally with a variety of kindred causes elsewhere, there was the trial of Ellis v. Kelly in the Exchequer of Pleas, in the course of which, all the judges concurred in the revision of issues in courts below, as expounded by the Lord Chief Baron, to this effect, briefly: "A Doctor in Medicine of the Protestant University of Bavaria (the Erlangen degree being the document impeached), is entitled, in equity, to the rights and privileges belonging to the academic title of M.D. in this country, whether registered under the Medical Act or not; and no court of law or justice, other than the University Court, which created the Doctor, or conferred the grade and rank, has authority, power, or prerogative to unfrock him."

The above case was tried in November 1860, and fully reported, with "verdict for defendant, with costs," in the law journals, as well as in the *Times*, *Standard*, *Daily Telegraph*, etc.; in fact, it was noticed by the press generally. Although Dr. Kelly had English qualifications besides, I regret to add that, like "M.D.Brussels," he was previously the innocent victim of egregious invective and professional obloquy.—I am, etc.

A FOREIGN GRADUATE OF FORTY YEARS' STANDING.

SUBSCRIBER.—Under the circumstances stated, "Subscriber" would have been justified in referring the applicant to the parochial medical officer, whose duty it is to attend to such calls.

JOKES WHICH MIGHT BE DISPENSED WITH.

At a meeting of the Tenth Board of Guardians held on May 17th, it was reported that a letter had been received from the Local Government Board, stating that the district auditor had reported to them that no account of the consumption by paupers, of drugs supplied to the outdoor dispensary by the guardians, was kept by the dispenser. The Board desired to be furnished with the observations of the guardians on the matter.

The clerk had prepared the following reply, which he read. "My lords and gentlemen,—I am directed by the guardians to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, in which you state that the auditor had reported that no account of the consumption by the paupers of the drugs supplied to the outdoor dispensary by the guardians is kept by the dispenser. I am to say that as pills, plasters, decoctions, syrups, and other medicines are dispensed on the order of the medical officers from drugs bought in bulk, it is difficult to see how any account in detail could be kept of their consumption by the paupers. The drugs are contracted for, ordered through the order cheque book, invoices for them are examined by the guardians and myself, and a stock-book is kept. The guardians, even with the assistance of members of the Pharmaceutical Society who have seats on the board, felt incompetent to formulate an efficient, or anything like an efficient, check beyond their personal watchfulness and observation; and as any extravagant use by the dispenser of prussic acid, belladonna, nitric acid, arsenic, nuxvomica, sulphuric acid, strychnine, or castor-oil as condiments would be followed by immediate exposure and detection, they thought a graceful confidence in his integrity would be a better protection against a depraved palate such as an apothecary might have acquired by long familiarity with his pharmacopœia, than the institution of a worthless check." The guardians approved of the reply, and ordered it to be sent to the Board.

A YOUNG MEMBER.—The form "I hereby certify" is, we believe, sufficient in England.

NAQUET'S HAIR-DYE.

SIR.—In reply to "Hirsutus," Naquet's dye is not a success. Though carefully prepared according to the published directions, and also in a modified form by adding the equivalent quantity of hyposulphite of soda, to liq. bismuthi am. cit. F.B., which fluid is almost the same strength as the tartaric solution of Naquet, the result is that a reddish colour is produced on the hair which stains both night and day linen, for which reason there is an almost insuperable objection to its use. Possibly, if it were persevered with, the requisite shade of brown or black might be attained for the hair, but it would also involve pillow cases, etc. A solution of permanganate of silver appears to answer best, and can be obtained from any wholesale druggist.—Yours, etc., B. B.

BORACIC DUSTING POWDER.

SIR.—As the allusion to Mr. S. Huggett's letter on this subject in the last issue of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL might lead your readers to infer that our "Sanitary Rose Powder" contains starch, we shall feel obliged if you will allow us to state that our preparation does not contain starch of any kind.—We are, yours respectfully,
JAS. WOOLLEY, SONS, AND CO.
69, Market Street, Manchester, July 3rd, 1883.

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