

POISONOUS PIGMENTS.

AFTER our article on this subject had gone to press, the secretary to the committee of the National Health Society received a communication from the Foreign Office, in which Mr. Sackville West, H.M. Minister at Washington, stated that there were no federal laws on the use of poisonous pigments, and that the authorities of thirty-three of the forty-six States and Territories informed him that none whatever existed in their respective districts. From private information, the secretary finds that there are no restrictions imposed by the laws of Belgium.

AN UNQUALIFIED ASSISTANT.

THE following advertisement, extracted from the *Birmingham Daily Post*, has been sent to us from two correspondents for publication.

"A Medical Student.—For the information of those of our readers who may not know Mr. B. E. L. Smith, medical assistant to J. J. Hues, surgeon, of Park Road, Aston, and Handsworth, and medical student of Queen's College, Birmingham, we may state that we have before us a large number of testimonials to that gentleman, some of which we publish, extending over a period of thirteen years, which speak of Mr. Smith in terms of the highest praise. Dr. B. A. Otterell, of West Bromwich, whose assistant Mr. Smith was, speaks of him as 'perfectly familiar with the performance of surgery duties, a faithful and clean dispenser, a pleasing visitor, and a good and cautious accoucheur.' Mr. Hues writes as follows of Mr. Smith: 'I have much pleasure in stating that Mr. B. E. L. Smith has been my faithful and valued assistant for upwards of six years. (Signed) J. J. Hues, L.R.C.P. and M.R.C.S. (England).' There are also testimonials from Mr. W. Gibson, surgeon; Mr. J. H. Clay, surgeon, Birmingham; Mr. A. Whitehead, surgeon, Edgbaston; Dr. Drever, Winslow Green; Mr. T. G. Vaudrey, L.R.C.P. (London), M.R.C.S. (England)."

Our correspondents desire that we should ask whether such an advertisement was inserted with the view of inviting attention to the merits of a gentleman who (it is alleged), though unqualified, is in charge of Mr. J. J. Hues's branch practice, or for what legitimate purpose.

MELANCHOLIA.

SIR,—Will you permit me to state, in answer to "E. W.'s" inquiry, that his patient may be treated at her own home, so long as she is there kept under proper care and control, and not cruelly treated nor neglected; and that, as the husband presumably does not derive any profit from such charge, this may be without any order and medical certificates; but I would advise "E. W.," if only for his own protection, to insist that the husband or other proper person, in the same manner not deriving profit from such charge, be actually resident, and take the responsibility of all acts that may be necessary for the well-being of his patient.

If "E. W." be of opinion that his patient is now actually dangerous, or that, for other reasons, she cannot be in this way properly treated, I apprehend that his wisest course will be to formally give the husband notice of this, and even, if necessary, to report the case to the Commissioners in Lunacy.

Undoubtedly, many very severe cases of melancholia are successfully and happily treated in their own homes.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
Brooke House, Upper Clapton, July 2nd, 1883. J. O. ADAMS, M.D.

UNQUALIFIED PRACTITIONERS.

SIR,—Will you allow me to suggest the substitution of a clause, like the following, in the Medical Acts Amendment Bill, instead of Subclause 3 of Clause 27, which is appended as a note to the letter of Dr. Parsons, of Bristol, in last Saturday's *Journal*?

"Any person who shall assume the possession of any degree or title registrable under this Act, or who shall practise medicine or surgery for gain, without being duly registered, shall, upon a summary conviction before two justices of the peace, be convicted in a penalty not exceeding £20, or equivalent imprisonment."

Past experience proves that nothing but a penal clause like this, will prevent the practice of medicine by unqualified persons.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
W. WEBB, M.D., President of the Midland Branch.
Wirksworth, July, 1883.

ONE OF THEM.—Clause 69 of the new Medical Bill provides: "This Act shall not make illegal the use by any person, after the passing thereof, of any medical title which he was actually using, and was entitled to use, at the date of the passing of this Act." The Bill will have no retrospective effect on the rights and privileges of existing medical authorities.

MOIST HANDS AND FEET.

SIR,—Your correspondent of a week or two since will find the following formula a valuable application to moist hands and feet. R acid salicylic, 3j; naphthol, 5j; pulv. amyli, 3iv; misc. et adde olei eucalypti, 3j; pulv. terre dimoliz (Taylor's), 3iv. The parts should be previously washed with 20 per cent. carbolic soap.—I am, sir, yours very truly,
C. J. BOYD WALLIS.
22, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, W., July 2nd, 1883.

LEWIS'S HISTOLOGICAL LABELS.

Mrs. LEWIS, of Gower Street, has printed, on a gummed sheet of paper, the various labels that are likely to be required in a class of practical physiology, by teachers or students. They will be found useful for the purpose for which they are intended.

TREATMENT OF GOUTY DYSPEPSIA.

SIR,—Will any medical brother kindly advise me as to the treatment of the following case? A gentleman, aged 50, in whose family gout is hereditary, and who frequently suffers from gouty dyspepsia, has for some time been under my care for the above complaint, accompanied by a considerable amount of debility, irregular action of the heart, great lassitude, etc. The temperature is remarkable: during the greater part of the day it is slightly subnormal, but about 9 P.M. it begins to fall, and by 11 P.M. it generally ranges from 98.2° to 98.7°; this fall is followed by buzzing in the head and ears. With a view to keep the temperature from falling, I have tried quinine, digitalis, Easton's syrup, arsenic, maltine, with the phosphates of iron, quina, and strychnia, and various other nerving and general tonics, but hitherto without much success. I may also state that about twenty years ago my patient had an attack of Greek fever when at Malta.
L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

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

Mr. H. Cumberland Taylor, Jersey; Mr. Shirley F. Murphy, London; Mr. Henry Greenway, Plymouth; Mr. J. S. Parkes, Swinton, near Manchester; Mr. J. A. Dow, London; Dr. F. P. Atkinson, Kingston; Truth; Dr. George A. Hetherington, St. John's, Canada; Mr. E. Lister, Swarthdale, Ulverston; Mr. E. Watford, Ramsgate; Dr. Ralfe, London; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Mr. R. Vacy Ash, London; Dr. James Yates, Oldham; Mr. Malcolm Webb, Cheshire; Dr. J. M. Finny, Dublin; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; Dr. Hill-ton Fagge, London; Mr. Thomas Benjamin Luscombe, Teddington; Mr. J. P. Gaunt, Alvechurch; Dr. O. H. Robinson, Dublin; Dr. J. Middleton, Torquay; Mr. O. B. Keetley, London; Mr. Arthur Graham, London; Mr. R. H. Milson, Durham; Mr. A. F. Clay, Birmingham; Messrs. Challis and Priest, Brighton; Mr. T. B. Curling, Brighton; Mr. T. Stone, London; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. Sidney Thorp, Halstead; Mr. E. White Wallis, London; Dr. Manson Fraser, London; Mrs. Reid, Glasgow; Mr. A. Jackson, Sheffield; Mr. Gordon Jackson, London; Dr. J. W. R. Tilanus, Amsterdam; Dr. F. Beach, Darenth; Dr. J. Kennedy, Elie, Fifeshire; Dr. William Frazer, Bournemouth; Mr. J. Brindley James, London; Mr. Claudius O'Donel, Mullingar; Mr. T. W. Haslehurst, Claverley; Dr. W. H. Giddings, Calveley; Mr. S. B. Mason, Pontypool; Mr. Robert Jones, Liverpool; Messrs. Oetzmann and Co., London; Mr. E. T. Allan, London; Dr. Eddowes, Shrewsbury; The Secretary of the Netherfield Institution of Infectious Diseases; Mr. Reginald Harrison, Liverpool; Mr. James Arthur, Ferryhill, Durham; Dr. R. Carley Smith, Ardwick, Manchester; Dr. Paul, London; Mr. William Bourn, Liverpool; Mr. J. Vesey Fitzgerald, London; Dr. Ffrench Blake, London; Mr. Alexander Anderson, Belfast; Mr. Crossman, Bristol; Dr. Dawson Williams, London; Dr. H. Mac Cormac, Belfast; Mr. J. M. Hardestie, Dumfries; Mr. J. Milward, Cardiff; Dr. C. West, London; Mr. T. Litton Taylor, Twickenham; Mr. Hardman, Blackpool; Mr. Darwin Gisborne, Marden; Dr. Ransome, Bowden; Mr. W. T. Ansell, London; Mr. Edward Casey, Windsor; Dr. Imlach, Liverpool; Mr. Thomas M. Watt, Horningham; The Secretary of the London Sanitary Protection Association; Mr. Wm. Hitchman, Liverpool; The Secretary of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch; Mr. Simpson Powell, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dr. Atthill, Dublin; Mr. Edwin Goadby, Clifton; Mr. W. Alpin, Abingdon; Miss Kate Prentice, London; Dr. Oliver, Harrogate; Dr. A. Drummond Macdonald, Liverpool; Mr. Charles Mercer, Greenhithe; Mr. Charles Roberts, London; Mr. S. J. J. Kirby, Grays, Essex; Mr. Leonard W. Sedgwick, London; Mr. John Furley, London; Dr. A. Waters, Liverpool; Mr. T. W. Trend, Southampton; Dr. John Clare, Hanley; Mr. F. Gillett, Southsea; Dr. Hare, London; Dr. Dunn, Southsea; Dr. Sawyer, Birmingham; Mr. Herbert H. Meyer, Hoxton; Mr. J. T. Hurst, London; Mr. J. S. Abraham, Dublin; Mr. Barri L. Tandy, Haverhill; Mr. W. Rogers Williams, Enfield; Mr. W. F. Phillips, Andover; Dr. Mackie, Alexandria; Dr. Grant Bey, Cairo; Mr. B. Alford, Weston-super-Mare; Mr. C. B. Lockwood, Leeds; Dr. Macpherson, London; Income Tax; Dr. B. J. Guillemard, Southsea; Members of the South-Western Branch; Dr. J. Brydon, Hawick; L.R.C.P.; Dr. Pearse, Haslemere; Dr. W. T. Watson, Tottenham; Mr. M. D. Makuna, London; Mr. W. H. Stickland, London, etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

On the Treatment of Wounds and Fractures. By Sampson Gamgee, F.R.C.S.E. With Forty-four Engravings on Wood. Second Edition. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.

The Mother's Guide to the Management and Treatment of Infants. By J. Keating, M.D. In great part Rewritten and Revised throughout by Armand Semple, B.A., M.B. London: H. Kempton, 82, High Holborn.

Practical Histology and Pathology. By Henage Gibbs, M.D. Second Edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1883.

A Handbook of the Theory and Practice of Medicine. By Frederick T. Roberts, M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.P. London: H. K. Lewis. 1883.

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