

GYNECOLOGY, DARWINISM, AND MEDICAL ETHICS.

SIR,—In a case of triplets which I recently attended, the children were all males, and in each one the presenting part was the left foot. Whether the fact of the father being a soldier would account for the progeny stepping into existence left foot foremost, on Darwin's theories, is a point on which, perhaps, an army surgeon could throw some light.

As an obstetric case, perhaps the most noticeable feature was the utter absence of expulsive pains after the os had become fully dilated. This I have generally observed in cases where the uterus had been over-distended; and in this, and in other such cases, ergot seemed to be inert. Traction on the presenting limb was necessary to effect delivery; and this was done in each case without difficulty or delay. The placenta coalesced and came away in one large mass, but each had its distinct membranes.

With respect to medical ethics, I am on delicate ground; for, my patient being in poor circumstances, I thought it right to call attention to the case in the *Standard*, with a view to raising a small fund to help in what even well-to-do people might look upon as a domestic calamity, and which the parents certainly were quite unprepared to meet.

That professional opinion is divided on the subject may be judged from the fact that two medical neighbours wrote to me anonymously, without enclosing subscriptions, evidently aggrieved that the triplets should have advertised my name; but another medical neighbour called to look at the happy family, made a little collection at a dinner party where he mentioned the case, and handed over three guineas to the patient on the following day.

I make no comments, but shall be happy to take charge of any contributions which may be sent to me, and which I know will be gratefully received by my patient.—I am, sir, yours truly and obliged,

12, Ladbroke Grove, W., December 4th, 1883. ALFRED E. BARRETT.

INQUIRER.—We cannot answer such a question, coming from a lay source.

TENNIS-ELBOW.

SIR,—I have seen in the *JOURNAL*, from time to time, communications on the subject of tennis-elbow, and, in the issue of November 10th, a letter from a member who suffers from this painful affection.

I have had to treat some cases of this injury, and, looking upon it as a lesion of the musculo-spiral nerve—the principal symptoms being manifested in the muscles supplied by this nerve, or its branches. I have treated it successfully by a continuous current of electricity. I think, if a member tries this plan of treatment, he will find it effectual in restoring the lost nervous power of the affected muscles.

Of course, if the symptoms be referable to any other set of muscles than those supplied by the musculo-spiral nerve—as those supplied by the median and ulnar—the points of application of the electricity must be changed accordingly.

S. O'SULLIVAN, M.D., M.O.H., F.R.C.S.I.,
Professor of Surgery, Queen's College, Cork.

GYNECOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

SIR,—As bearing upon my letter of last week, and illustrating the delicate nature of certain uterine affections which occasionally come under the notice of practitioners, the following particulars may be worthy of a place in your columns.

A young lady, aged about 20, formerly in excellent health, for the past few months complained of a feeling of irritation in the bladder, and frequency of micturition. The urine contained more or less mucus, with a considerable quantity of urate of ammonia. The usual treatment in such cases, having in view that the affection was simply vesical, was employed without any benefit. Pain in the back, shooting pains down the thighs, and dyspepsia, with the vague feeling of a swelling within the vagina, having been related to me by the patient's mother, I expressed the opinion that, however unusual, under the circumstances, there was, in all probability, some misplacement of the uterus. There was a history of a severe fall some five months ago. Unwilling myself to make an examination, for obvious reasons, I requested the aid of Professor Leishman, who discovered that the case was one of extreme retroversion of the uterus. By means of the sound, the organ was replaced in its normal position, where, it is to be hoped, with the assistance of rest, etc., it will remain.

Touching the correspondence originated by Dr. Dutton, obvious conclusions may be drawn from such cases as this one.

D. CAMPBELL BLACK, M.D.

L.R.C.S.I.—Such remarks as those reported appear to us quite unjustifiable. Irish qualifications are not only of full legal value in England, but the status, and learning, and professional dignity of the Irish medical profession as a whole are justly held in the highest esteem. L.R.C.S.I. was certainly entitled to expect a courteous reply, and an apology for any hasty expressions which may have wounded him.

DRIVING GLOVES FOR WINTER.

SIR,—A short time since a correspondence took place in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, as to the best gloves for country practitioners to drive with in the winter.

Amongst those mentioned as being most suitable for cold and inclement weather, were the well known woollen knitted Ringwood gloves, but they possessed this disadvantage, from their perviousness they admitted both wet and cold, unless a pair of kids were worn underneath them, and worn in this manner there was the further disadvantage, by their bulkiness, of the driver not obtaining a firm grip of the reins.

Messrs. Cox and Hicks, the well known glove manufacturers here, have now introduced a great improvement in the old gloves, by adding dogskin to the palmar aspect, and between the fingers of the glove. I am now using a pair for driving, and can most thoroughly recommend them as being warm, light, and at the same time possessing, by the virtue of the dogskin, a perfect grip on the reins.—I remain, yours faithfully,

H. GEORGE DYER.

Ringwood, November 27th, 1883.

THE CLIMATE OF SKYE.

AN OLD COCKNEY.—The climate of Skye is mild, but wet; the winters are seldom severe, snow never lies long, and lengthened periods of frost are rare. It is supposed that the Gulf-stream has a moderating influence on the climate. In the coldest season the temperature is usually several degrees higher than that of London. Our correspondent might find further information in the statistical reports of the Scotch parishes, published some years ago.

CAUTION: GUY'S MAN: IMPOSTOR.

SIR,—I wish to warn your readers, especially Guy's men, against a man who gives the name of Wilford, and claims to have been at Guy's Hospital as a student, having left in 1865. He displays a considerable personal knowledge of various Guy's men, but, as far as I have yet inquired, they know nothing of him. He professed to have returned lately from New Zealand, and that he was bound for Sheffield, where his children are in the Union.—I am, sir, yours truly,

ARTHUR H. JONES.

32, Sheep Street, Northampton.

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

Our Manchester Correspondent; Our Birmingham Correspondent; Dr. Junker, London; A Billous Physician; Dr. Herman, London; Mr. Wickham Barnes, London; Mr. N. Stevenson, London; Mr. W. J. Ready, Newport, Monmouthshire; Dr. Talfourd Jones, Brecon; Messrs. Griffin and Co., London; Mr. C. J. Barry, London; Mr. Lennox Browne, London; Dr. Bridgwater, Harrow; "Aristos"; Dr. Frances Hoggan, London; Dr. A. W. Wallace, Parsonstown; Mr. T. D. Cook, Kettering; Mr. A. E. Barrett, London; Dr. Moorhead, Weymouth; Mr. B. Kingston, Bromsgrove; Dr. G. Henty, London; Dr. S. R. Macphail, Carlisle; Mr. Henry Dawkes, Wood Green; Mr. James J. Marsh, Manchester; Mr. C. G. Wheelhouse, Leeds; Mr. James Todd, Glasgow; Mr. A. G. Hearn, London; Mr. William Lewis, Cardiff; Dr. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; An Old Member; Dr. J. D. McCaw, Belfast; Mr. H. C. Andrews, London; Mr. F. W. Lowndes, Liverpool; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Dr. J. H. Hume, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. George Jackson, Plymouth; Dr. J. P. Woodroffe, London; Mr. H. A. Breden, Bootle; Dr. Duncan J. Mackenzie, Glossop; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Messrs. Burgoyne and Co., London; Mr. A. Pearce, Salcombe, Kingsbridge; Dr. McKendrick, Glasgow; Dr. Dawson Williams, London; Mr. Bennett May, Birmingham; Mr. G. P. Field, London; Dr. J. Johnston, Bolton; Dr. J. Sawyer, Birmingham; Mr. C. L. Felton, Lampeter; Dr. J. J. Coppinger, Mallow; Dr. H. N. Nadder, Rathmines, Dublin; Dr. Clippingdale, London; Mr. J. W. Measures, Kidderminster; Dr. Maclean, Southampton; Dr. A. Smart, Edinburgh; Dr. C. F. Pollock, Glasgow; Dr. Chapple, London; Mr. Tom Bates, Worcester; Mr. W. G. Wallis, London; Dr. E. Le Bec, Paris; Dr. W. H. Bennett, Londonderry; Dr. D. Campbell Black, Glasgow; Dr. J. James Ridge, Enfield; Mr. T. Anderson Alexander, Epsom; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. W. Bartlett, Newcastle-under-Lyme; Mr. A. Lloyd Jones, London; Mr. Francis Toulmin, London; Dr. Braxton Hicks, London; Mr. E. Barn Callander, London; Dr. Carrington, London; Dr. E. Cresswell Baber, Brighton; Dr. Buzzard, London; Mr. J. Stevenson, Aldershot; Mr. J. Bain Sincok, Bridgwater; Mr. Davies-Colley, London; Dr. James Murphy, Sunderland; Dr. Macdonald, Liverpool; Mr. Walter W. Reeves, London; Dr. Lloyd Roberts, Manchester; Dr. Sidney Coupland, London; Dr. Ashby, Manchester; Dr. C. F. Knight, Dublin; Mr. T. W. H. Garstang, Manchester; Dr. Willoughby, London; Mrs. Borchardt, Manchester; Mr. D. J. Hamilton, Aberdeen; Mr. Benjamin Newbott, London; Mr. John Brown, Bacup; Mr. R. J. W. Orton, London; Mr. Warwick Steele, Dorchester; Mr. M. Maxwell, Lasswade; Mr. F. W. Bramwell, London; Dr. C. A. Cameron, Dublin; Messrs. Raphael Tuck and Sons, London; Mr. John Phillipson, Newcastle; Dr. A. D. Leith Napier, Dunbar; Dr. Markham Skerritt, Bristol; Mr. E. A. Snell, London; Dr. J. F. Payne, London; Mr. Behnke, Kensington; Dr. C. S. W. Cobbold, Earlswood Asylum; Mr. James Blackwood, London; Dr. Macpherson, London; Mr. May, London; Mr. T. Jenner Verrall, Brighton; Dr. Brailey, London; Dr. Habershon, London; Mr. R. Clement Lucas, London; Mr. James Rose, Liverpool; Mr. W. Wynn Westcott, London; "Medicus"; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Dr. F. Giles, Wem, Shropshire; Dr. Sutherland, London; Mr. J. R. B. Dove, Pinner; Mr. J. Clegg, Manchester; Dr. Henry Corby, Cork; Dr. Comyns Leach, Sturminster Newton; Mr. Arthur Cooper, London; Mr. H. Bennett, Londonderry; Dr. C. H. Orton, Newcastle-under-Lyme; Dr. Walter G. Walford, London; Dr. William Robertson, Kimberley; Dr. Dyce Duckworth, London; Mr. F. W. Mott, Liverpool; Mr. Furneaux Jordan, Birmingham, etc.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL".

Seven lines and under	...	...	...	...	...	£0 3 6
Each additional line	...	...	...	...	...	0 0 4
A whole column	...	...	...	...	...	1 15 0
A page	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0

An average line contains eight words.

When a series of insertions of the same advertisement is ordered, a discount is made on the above scale in the following proportions, beyond which no reduction can be allowed.

For 6 insertions, a deduction of	...	...	...	10 per cent.
" 12 or 13 "	...	...	...	20 "
" 26 "	...	...	...	25 "
" 52 "	...	...	...	30 "

For these terms, the series must, in each case, be completed within twelve months from date of first insertion.

Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager, at the Office, not later than Twelve o'clock on the Wednesday preceding publication; and, if not paid for at the time, should be accompanied by a reference.

Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the British Medical Association at the West Central Post-Office, High Holborn. Small amounts may be sent in postage stamps.