THE RUGBY HOSPITAL

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SIR.—My attention has been called to your article on "Small Country Hospitals" in the Journal for October 11th; and as there are some statements as to the Rugby hospital in it that are not quite correct, will you allow me, as architect of the new hospital, to give you some of the reasons that induced Mr. and Mrs. Wood to make their mobile gift to the town, and also to give you a few figures to prove my statements?

Wood to make their notic gift to the town, and also to give you a few figures to prove my statements?

You say "that the committee had acquired a really good building, in which there was space for thirty-five beds." The old hospital was situated in a back street in the centre of the town, surrounded by workshops, cottages, gasworks, etc. It contained only one room with any pretensions to be called a ward, containing about 8,020 cubic feet, and this room was used for eight or more patients, but only had room for five beds if 1,500 cubic feet per bed were allowed. The remaining bed-space consisted of seven low rooms, without any cross-ventilation, containing 20,824 cubic feet, which, divided by 1,500, gives us nearly four-teen beds, or, with the five in the ward, a total of nineteen in the building, on the staff, and, coupled with had sanitary arrangements, and the general situation of the building, was the principal reason that moved the foundors to make their offer, so that the good work that had been and was being done might be continued under more favourable circumstances. They gave ten acres of land on the edge of the town, and built the new hospital to accommodate thirty-one patients, allowing in the general wards over 1,500, and in the isolation-wards 2,000 cubic feet to each bed. The building is fitted with every moticel. It is manifestly unfair to reckon the value of the whole site in making this calculation, as four-lifths of it is let out for grazing, and is consequently income-producing; nor should the £10,000 endowment be added for the purpose of ascertaining the cost per bed, although both these items must be reckoned when the gift to the town of Ringby is considered.—I am, yours faithfully, 8, Gray's Inn Square, W.C.

8, Gray's Inn Square, W.C. HENRY WILSON. , Our authority for the cost of the new hospital at Rugby was the Lord-Lieutenant of the county, who, in his speech at the public opening of the hospital in July, stated that "Mr. Wood had laid out something more than thirty thousand pounds." Lord Leigh did not distinguish between the cost of the building and the site. On the other point raised, we may have good reasons, from a medical point of view, or from that of public convenience, for not agreeing with an architect respecting the merits of a building which he has superseded; but we are assured that Mr. Wilson will agree with us as to the duty

present, the hospital contains a dozen patients.

of the local public in efficiently maintaining the rehabilitated institution. At

THE MEDICAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

SIR.—I hope the medical profession, as a body, will condenu Dr. Struthers's scheme for the medical profession, as a body, will condenu Dr. Struthers's scheme for the medical preliminary examination, which has made a ridiculously casy examination more easy still.

The idea of being able to pass an examination with so simple and few subjects bit by bit is absurd. As it was, at the College of Preceptors, many boys of twelve could have passed it with case. Last year, I knew men who, without knowing any Latin before, and with very little other education, passed it after a few weeks' study. Now our examination will be easier than that of the F.P.S. Cleaves or Edinburgh Preliminary for they do invited. Glasgow or Edinburgh Preliminary, for they do insist on having two books of

I knew a man go up to Scotland, and pass in English only; the next time, he crammed up and passed in Euclid; the next time, in algebra and arithmetic; the fourth time in Latin; and the fifth in chemistry. Counting mathematics as one subject, he went up five times for four subjects; and this is what London is imitating. Alas, to what depths will the medical profession sink!—Yours obs-

PORTABLE ANTISEPTICS. Sin.—Permit me to point out to your readers, and to your correspondent, Mr. T.

Ernest Hayward, that the solution of corrosive sublimate prepared in the manner advocated in your issue of October 18th would contain not 1 in 900, but 1 in ner advocated in your issue of october 18th would contain not 1 in 300, but 1 in 500, but 1 in 500,

corresters summer the control of the required strength, namely, 1 in 1,000.—

ALFRED E. TANNER. Yours faithfully, High Cross, Tottenham.

ERRATA.—In the JOURNAL of October 4th, p. 654, column 2, line 10, for "three hours," read "twenty-four hours." In the JOURNAL of October 11th, p. 689, column 1, in the first purgraph of Dr. Douglas Powell's paper on the Causative Relations of Phthisis, the name "Dr. Macnamara" should be "Dr. Mac Cornac."

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

Mr. F. Herbert Menzies, London; Dr. A. R. Simpson, Edinburgh; Mr. G. Collet, Worthing; Dr. G. E. Herman, London; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. A. Jackson, Sheffield; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Dr. Quinlan, Dublin; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. H. Campbell Pope, London; Mr. A. W. Sinclair, Sclanzor, Straits Settlement; Dr. T. Harris, Oxford; Mr. C. E. Greenwood, London; Our Correspondent in Egypt; Mr. J. E. Power, Nottingham; The Registrar-General, Queensland; Dr. W. A. Hollis, Brighton; Mr. D. Golaub Sing, London; Dr. J. Ward Cousins, Portsea; Dr. Samuel Wilks, London ; Mr. V. Jackson, Wolverhampton ; The Secretary of the International Health Exhibition; Mr. Malcolm Morris, London; Inquirer; Dr. I. Stephens, Brighton; The Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh; Mr. William Berry, Wigan; Dr. Protheroe Smith, London; Mr. T. Jenner Verrall, Brighton; Dr. Kelly, Taunton; Mr. G. B. Atkinson, Cambridge; Dr. W. J.

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Elementary Text-Book of Zoology. By Dr. C. Claus. Translated and Edited by A. Sedgwick, M.A., with the Assistance of T. G. Heathcote, B.A. London: W. Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1884.

Eleventh Annual Report of the Secretary of the State Board of Health of the State of Michigan for the Fiscal Year ending September 30th, 1883. Loosing, Michigan: W. S. George and Co. 1884.

Myths in Medicine and Old-Time Doctors. By A. C. Garrett, M.D. London and New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1884.

Descriptive Catalogue of the Pathological Museum of the Middlesex Hospital. By J. Kingston Fowler, M.D., assisted by J. B. Sutton, F.R.C.S. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.

Handbook of Midwifery for Midwives; from the Official Handbook of Midwifery for Prussian Midwives. By J. E. Burton, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.

Transactions of the Clinical Society of London. Vol. XVII. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1884.

Physiology of Digestion and the Digestive Organs. By A. Gamgee, M.D., F.R.S. London: W. Clowes and Sons. 1884.

Public Health and Laboratory Work. By W. Watson Cheyne, M.B., F.R.C.S, W. H. Corfield, M.A., M.D., and C. E. Cassal, F.I.C., F.C.S. London: W. Clowes and Sons. 1884.

Fermentation. By Dr. Duclaux, of Paris. London: W. Clowes and Sons. 1884.

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