

THE ETYMOLOGY OF DOCTOR.

SIR,—Your learned correspondent "Philologist" might have given another instance, from the reign of Henry VIII., proving that "Doctor" and "Physician" are, and for hundreds of years have been, synonymous terms.

The College of Physicians wished to prevent the surgeons from practising physic, but claimed the right to practise surgery themselves. They therefore, in the 32 of Henry VIII., inserted a clause stating that "forasmuch as the science of physic doth comprehend, include, and containe the knowledge of surgery, as a special member and part of the same... therefore Doctors might practise surgery." (Wadd., p. 73.)

In 1785 and 1791, the College of Physicians in Ireland were empowered to elect the professors who should confer the degrees; in other words, the physicians made the men who made the M.D.'s. Now, these grandchildren of the physicians tell their progenitors, "You are not Doctors; we are the salt, etc."—Your obedient servant,
W. E. D.

FLORIDA AND MOGADOR AS FIELDS FOR PRACTICE.

SIR,—In answer to the letter of "Florida," in the JOURNAL of June 27th, asking for some information as to the climate and prospects of professional success in that State, I am strongly of opinion, both from experience and reading, that neither is of such a character as to render any rash adventures advisable. The heat in summer is intense, with diurnal variations as great as 30° Fahr. The 30th parallel intersects it; hence the vegetation is tropical. As most of the country is low-lying, and much of it an immense swamp, agues, remittents, and abdominal disorders prevail, while yellow fever is of periodical occurrence. It is not well suited to the weak chested; nor is there any compensating advantage of a pecuniary nature. The place is well supplied with American practitioners, all of whom are far more intelligent and able than the ease with which degrees can be obtained would lead one *a priori* to expect. The people seem to possess a natural tact and aptitude for the skilful practice of surgery.

Your correspondent would, I think, if specially needing a warm climate, without much competition, find Mogador, on the west coast of Morocco, likely to suit his requirements. I have just been informed by a leading merchant of this port that its English-speaking community are anxious to guarantee £200 to an English medical man of some experience, stipulating only that he does not leave the station longer than 24 hours. By practice among ships and outsiders, he could raise his income to £500 a year, while he can live luxuriantly on half of it. As the trade is principally in the hands of English and French, a slight colloquial knowledge of the latter would be useful. The climate of this town is remarkably good, fevers and abdominal disorders being exceedingly rare, particularly amongst those foreigners who confine their potatoes to green tea, after the custom of the country.

During the hot season, the heat is tempered not only by the land and sea-breezes, but also by a prevailing fresh sea-wind, which dissipates noxious odours, and renders this season of the year not only endurable, but pleasant to many. The highest temperature is 95°. During the rainy season, from December to May, rain, which, owing to sandy soil, soon dries, falls on an average three days a week. There can be no doubt that this town, with its climate admirably suited for consumptive patients, would, in other hands (a consummation which may not be long delayed), soon become a health-resort of some importance. There is good sport—boar-hunting and shooting—close by.

I may add that there is at present only a Spanish medical man, and that I shall be glad to put any suitable gentleman in the way of obtaining any further information.—Yours faithfully,
D. H. CULLIMORE, M.D., M.R.C.P. Lond.
27, Welbeck Street, W.

A CASE OF NERVOUS IRRITABILITY.

SIR,—I should be thankful for any help as to the pathology and treatment of the following case.

A woman aged 70, previously of good health, applied for treatment, suffering from great nervous irritability and distress in her stomach, with nausea. Under treatment, she was relieved after passing a considerable length of tapeworm, and continued well for several months afterwards. Last October, similar symptoms occurred rather suddenly, though no further evidence of tapeworm had been seen. I then treated her with repeated doses of turpentine and castor-oil, but without the slightest effect in bringing away any part of a worm.

Great nervous irritability and sleeplessness continued, with a sensation of distress at the stomach, which has only been relieved by draughts containing morphia, bromide of potassium, chloral, Indian hemp, and chlorodyne, given separately and in combination. Besides such draughts, she has taken regularly various tonics, as phosphorus, valerianate of zinc and assafoetida, tincture of cinchona, nitrate of silver, etc.

At first, I suspected an alcoholic habit, especially as I found she could take 12 minims of tincture of capsicum for a dose uncomplainingly. I can find no further reason, however, to maintain my suspicion.

I have now discontinued all special treatment for more than two months, having found that nothing so far has at all benefited her, and simply treat her nervous symptom: with a night-draught of a grain of morphia, with 25 grains of chloral-hydrate, without which she is miserably irritable, and quite unable to sleep.

Latterly, there has been no complaint of distress at the stomach, but frequent headache. I can detect no disease of any organ or local tenderness. There is not the slightest reason to suspect that she was addicted to the use of narcotics before coming to me.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,
W. R. C.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEASTS."

UNDER the above heading an amusing account of the very enjoyable *conversations* recently given at the Royal College of Surgeons by the President of the College and Mrs. Cooper Forster, appears in the *Lady* newspaper for June 18th. It remarks that "all the men of light and leading in the medical and surgical professions were present, and had brought their wives, daughters, or sisters to grace the grim array of bones and pickles." The letter-press is accompanied by several engravings of phases of the evening's doings.

A HEALTH-RESORT NEAR LONDON.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Graham's letter, I would recommend Ascot Heath and its neighbourhood. The soil is of a sandy nature, with fir-plantations, and well adapted for people of delicate organisation. It is about 30 miles from London, on the S.W. lines.—Yours faithfully,
E. MAY, M.D.

CHLORIDE OF LIME.—A 10 per cent. solution of peroxide of hydrogen.

W. SUTTON.—We should say yes.

A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION asks where he can get some work to practically qualify himself for the post of public analyst, and also for the Sanitary Science Examination at Cambridge.

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

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Graves's Clinical Medicine, to which is Prefixed a Criticism by Professor Trouseau. London: New Sydenham Society. 1884.

Overpressure in High Schools in Denmark. By Dr. Hertel. Translated from the Danish by C. Godfrey Sørensen, with Introduction by J. Crichton Browne, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S. London: Macmillan and Co. 1885.

Tracheotomy in Laryngeal Diphtheria. By R. W. Parker. Second Edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1885.

A Guide to the Examination of the Urine. By J. Wickham Legg. London: H. K. Lewis. 1885.

Amputation Lectures. By S. Osborn, F.R.C.S. London: H. K. Lewis. 1885.

The Causes and Prevention of Blindness. By Dr. E. Fuchs. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1885.

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