

## WANTED, AN EXPLANATION AND A SUGGESTION.

SIR.—C. J., aged 69, straight and vigorous, with clear bright eyes, and of fresh appearance, has suffered from dyspepsia for many years. Usually the only prominent symptoms are crutation of gas and flatulence. For two or three years he has been troubled by an aching pain over an area the size of a florin, situated two inches above the external angular process of the frontal bone, left side. This pain is usually slight, but from time to time it is increased, and becomes even distressing. It is somewhat relieved for the time by gentle friction. The pain is most constantly annoying when the dyspepsia is worse. At such times the pulse, though full, steady, and 80 per minute, intermits about four times in the minute. This dyspepsia and intermission may last for several days together. There is no periodicity in these attacks that I can trace. The heart and vessels seem to be young and healthy. The diet is always simple and regular, and the dyspepsia cannot be traced to any error. The patient has occasionally a slight attack of cheiro-pompholyx.

Can anyone inform me what the product of the dyspepsia is that causes the pulse-intermissions and the supraorbital pain? And by what means, general and local, these can be corrected and relieved.—I am, etc., W. T. C.  
76, Edge Lane, Liverpool.

## CUCAINE IN OPERATION FOR FISTULA IN ANO.

SIR.—Having to operate for fistula on a lady of highly nervous temperament, and who had a great dread of chloroform and ether, I determined to give cucaine a trial.

By means of an ordinary hypodermic syringe, I injected along the fistulous track 10 minims of a four per cent. solution, and in less than a quarter of an hour was able to divide the tissues between the fistula and the bowel, almost without pain. In similar cases in future, I will also inject a few minims into the sphincter muscle.—I am, etc., Geo. C. KINGSBURY, M.A., M.D.  
3, Brighton Parade, Blackpool.

## THE PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION.

SIR.—With reference to remarks on the prevention of consumption by Dr. Ross Fraser in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of the 4th instant, in which he quotes Dr. Morgan's authority for saying that the crofter population of the Hebrides enjoy a certain immunity from consumption, I beg to state, from an intimate personal knowledge of the Western Hebrides, that no such immunity exists, and that reference to the registrar's books, from Barra Head to the Butt of the Lewis, will at once explode this erroneous idea, which I think was first propounded by the late Sir James Simpson thirty-three years ago.—I am, sir, yours, etc., D. McLEOD.  
Hawick, N.B.

## PERMANENT DEFORMITY.

SIR.—Would some of your readers be so kind as to tell me whether any institutions exist for persons permanently deformed, and entirely unable to move or assist themselves in dressing, turning in bed; etc., and able to pay a fair sum yearly?

The patient, in my case, is a lad, aged 19, with good education, and a gentleman, but terribly deformed, and barely able to move his arms and feet, and so requiring to be carried, dressed, turned in bed, etc.—Yours truly, CURATOR.

## THE DIPLOMA OF L.R.C.P. AND S.E.D.

SIR.—I trust you will give insertion to the following remarks, which may interest some of your readers.

Not long since, I presented myself for the first examination for the diplomas of L.R.C.S. and P., Edinburgh, and I have to complain that the examiner in anatomy neither asked me the origin and insertion of a muscle, nor one word about an artery, nerve, vein, or ligament, nor about the respiratory or digestive organs. This gentleman, though surrounded by anatomical specimens, never rose from his seat to have me recognise or question me on them. The consequence of the foregoing was, that I, who had dissected carefully during three seasons, and had a good knowledge of my anatomy, was told by the examiners that I had entirely failed to pass. The above facts may give intending candidates for the above examination some idea of the very practical examination they may expect to get from a few of the examiners.

Perhaps you could kindly inform me of the sense or justice of the following regulation of the Edinburgh College; namely, that a candidate who passes the paper examination and fails in the oral, is liable to be referred to his studies for six months, whilst one may fall on the papers, and present himself again in three months.

Relative to the written examination, four questions are given in anatomy, the same number in physiology, and two in chemistry. I maintain, that a man may know his business exceedingly well, though he may be unable to answer three and two questions out of the particular questions set him. Surely four questions in anatomy and physiology, and three in chemistry, are slight tests of one's knowledge of these subjects. I should be surprised to hear that any other medical examining body gave so few questions, and at present I know of none.

It is really surprising what a number of students with only a slight knowledge of their business, succeed in passing the first examination of the Colleges of Surgeons and Physicians, Edinburgh. This is owing to the fact that the examination occasionally lacks that searching nature which nowadays characterises all others.—Your obedient servant, REJECTED.

\* \* With regard to the oral examination, our correspondent does not state the subjects on which he was examined, but we are of opinion that he was unfairly used if no specimens were submitted to him as a test. The regulations concerning rejected candidates vary at different qualifying institutions.

## A REMEDY FOR HAY-FEVER.

SIR.—In your JOURNAL of June 27th, "A. D. G." recommends a remedy for hay-fever. I should like to be informed how he accomplishes the solution of the "fine powder, consisting of equal parts of borax and pure alum." If "A. D. G.'s" directions are followed, and 10 grains of each drug are triturated together, the result is a mass which is insoluble in cold, warm, or even boiling water. If the alum and borax be dissolved separately, and the two solutions mixed together, the result is a flocculent white precipitate.

I may add that I got two pharmaceutical chemists to verify the above, and the results obtained by them were exactly the same as my own.—Yours faithfully, J. ALFRED MASTERS, L.R.C.P. Lond., etc.  
London, W.

## TRANSPARENT FILM ON THE URINE.

SIR.—I have a case under observation, in which the urine is, after standing, almost always covered with a transparent iridescent scum. I should be much obliged if some of your readers could tell me the import of this phenomenon.—I am, etc., ENQUIRERS.

## "NOMENCLATURE."

A MEMBER.—The revised Nomenclature is distributed by the Stationery Office to all registered practitioners. The issue is, according to the officials, nearly completed. Any person wishing for information should apply to the Stationery Office, Princes Street, Storey's Gate.

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

Dr. D'Arcy Thompson, Dundee; Mr. T. G. Paterson, Carbot, Isle of Skye; Mr. J. Wheeler, Ilfracombe; Mr. Humphreys, London; Mr. North, York; Mr. F. G. Parrott, Bournemouth; Mr. L. Werner, Dublin; Mr. F. Brooks, Farnham; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. F. A. Best, Leamington Spa; Dr. Maxwell, Woolwich; Mr. F. Shearer, Paisley; Mr. A. Roberts, London; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, London; Messrs. W. Watson and Co., London; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Our Berlin Correspondent; Dr. Tilt, London; Miss Yates, London; Mr. S. Langdon, Seville; Mr. J. J. Terry, Wye; The Secretary of the St. Peter's Hospital, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. G. J. W. Johnston, Clonmel; Dr. J. Hight, Workington; Dr. T. Cranston Charles, Streatham; Dr. G. W. Grabham, Wellington, New Zealand; Dr. Stevenson, London; Mr. H. J. K. Vines, Littlehampton; Mr. George Cowell, London; The Secretary of the Northern Hospital, Liverpool; Dr. Marshall, Nottingham; Dr. Cullimore, London; Mr. R. P. Goodworth, Doncaster; Dr. Waller, London; Mr. J. Attfield, London; Dr. Robert J. Lee, London; Dr. J. H. Lurgan, London; L.R.C.P.; Dr. Robinson, Dublin; Dr. Aitken, Edinburgh; Mr. J. E. Blackman, Portsmouth; Mr. R. Harrison, Liverpool; Mr. Lawson Tait, Birmingham; Mr. G. Denton, London; Mr. Shirley Murphy, London; Mr. Robertson, Edinburgh; Dr. Edwards, London; Mr. W. E. C. Nourse, Exeter; The Secretary of the Charity Organisation Society; Mr. Herbert D. Ellis, Eastbourne; Messrs. W. Schacht and Co., London; Mr. J. Willcocks, Overton; Dr. Myers, London; Our Valencia Correspondent; Dr. Josiah Williams, Sheffield; Mr. W. T. Jackman, Coggeshall; Mr. Jabez Hogg, London; Mr. J. Hervey Jones, Manchester; Mr. J. M. Taylor, Coltishall; Dr. Britton, Halifax; Dr. Whitla, Belfast; Dr. R. M. Wycroft, Brooklyn, New York; Mr. J. M. Gilmson, Tunstall; Dr. H. Page, Redditch; Dr. D. Bradley, Chesterfield; Mr. R. Clement Lucas, London; Mr. W. W. Wagstaffe, Sevenoaks; Dr. Sheen, Cardiff; The Secretary of the Social Science Association; Mr. Charles Brown, London; Mr. Alfred Carter, London; Mr. C. E. Furston, Birmingham; Mr. Timothy Holmes, London; Mr. Francis Vaeh, Birkenhead; Dr. Styrap, Shrewsbury; Dr. V. Poulain, London; Mr. Jeffreys, Chesterfield; Mr. C. Roberts, London; Dr. A. G. Lawrence, Chesham; Mr. Robert Gibbs, Teignmouth; Mr. George Litting, Stevenage; Mr. Swanzy, Dublin; The Secretary of the Insurance Pamphlet Company; Mr. Charles Williams, Norwich; Mr. David Davies, Bristol; Mr. C. J. Renshaw, Ashton-upon-Mersey; Sir W. Mac Cormac, London; Dr. Heywood Smith, London; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. S. W. North, York; Mr. Henry Power, London; Mr. H. S. Leverton, Truro, etc.

## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Cancer; A Study of Three Hundred and Ninety-Seven Cases of Cancer of the Female Breast, with Clinical Observations. By Willard Parker, M.D. London and New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1885.  
Health-Resorts. By M. Charteris, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1885.  
Our Dwellings, Healthy and Unhealthy. By C. M. Auckston. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1885.  
West African Hygiene. By C. S. Grant. London: E. Stanford. 1885.  
School Hygiene. By R. Farquharson, M.D., M.P. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1885.

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

Seven lines and under	..	..	..	..	..	20	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 15 "	..	..	..	20 "
" 25 "	..	..	..	25 "
" 52 "	..	..	..	30 "

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

Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager, at the Office, not later than noon 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 paid in postage-stamps.