

the drugs shall be stowed; there should be convenience for compounding, and performing minor surgical operations, dressings, etc. Hospital accommodation should be provided, these hospitals being so arranged as to be serviceable (barring accidents) in all weather, and of sufficient size to allow one or more cots to be swung, in addition to the standing bunks. The law already determines when one or two surgeons shall be carried, and it would not be difficult to add that, where a surgeon is necessary, the foregoing are equally important. Until a regular service is organised, other questions must be left to self-adjustment.

COLONIAL PRACTICE: A VOICE FROM MELBOURNE.

A MEMBER writes: On reading Dr. Norry's letter of May 29th, I immediately inserted two prominent advertisements in each of the two leading Melbourne papers which circulate all over the colony of Victoria, requesting information as to an opening for a medical man. In reply thereto, I received two answers from persons desirous of letting their houses. I fail to perceive that his remarks at all coincide with your article of September 5th. I have never practised, and cannot but think that if Dr. Norry had come out with that object, and had spent more than "a few months," he would have been better informed. Though he had "the good fortune in Sydney to make the acquaintance of several of the leading men in private practice," who must therefore have been successful men, yet he proceeds to say that "apparently the successful men do not care to let us know their experiences;" is not such an idea utterly childish and unworthy? One would naturally infer that they must have given him a very glowing account of the land. The fault here, as at home, is for men to crack up their practices; but, as a rule, gentlemen in the position of consultants are not over well informed as to general practice. I do not believe "there are men now living at home upon incomes" made out here, but should it be otherwise, that does not prove that these incomes are to be made to-day. I think £700 would be a very fair average for country practices; and if the respective value of money be taken into consideration, the excess is not much in favour of this country. I am informed there are 700 medical students in Melbourne, besides those at Sydney, Adelaide, and, I suppose, in New Zealand, so your readers can form a very good idea for themselves whether there can be any deficiency of supply for four and a half millions of people, which represents the united populations of Australia and New Zealand. All the professions are overdone. Dr. Norry's remarks about specialists are somewhat conflicting. The question is, are there any specialists? I reply, any number. In Sydney there is a late physician to the Chelsea Hospital for Women, and I doubt not all the other branches are amply represented. In Melbourne, there are four specialists devoted entirely to the eye and ear, two devoted entirely to the throat and ear, and yet we are told that "surely a man of known ability would have many patients from distant parts of the country." How do these gentlemen live if their clients do not come from all parts? I regret that Dr. Norry should have passed such a slur upon those practising a speciality by insinuating that they are not men of "known ability." Are those "now qualifying" the right men to supply this deficiency? It is not a very common thing for a colonist "to make a voyage to England to obtain an opinion," though, of course, such does sometimes happen. There is but one inland town of 38,000 in the whole of Australia; the others are, for the most part, small. Many of them would be villages at home. I do not know one with a suburb; and all the inland towns in Victoria are either at a standstill or decreasing. The capital towns are increasing rapidly. I know all the suburbs of Melbourne and Sydney, and assert that the ground is fully occupied by medical men. There are but few suburbs in either but what I have seen men attempt to establish themselves and fail. I am not aware of any town where the medical men are not in excess of the requirements, for it may be estimated that two-thirds of the population are in clubs, for which there is the keenest competition. Without an introduction, it is difficult to establish oneself; and this is not to be obtained by purchasing a practice, for no personal introduction is given by the seller. Many men have made their money, not so much by their profession, as by successful mining ventures, and this means that a still greater number have lost the little they had. I assert that the incomes we hear of are grossly exaggerated. That "the supply does not exceed the demand" is literally absurd. The system of advertising in the public papers has no equal in England; and this alone is proof positive of the keen competition. In reading a correspondent's letter in the JOURNAL on South Africa, I could not help thinking how very aptly his remarks might be applied to this country.

PROTRACTED PREGNANCY.

DR. WILLIAM FRASER (Ashburton, Devon) sends the following note, which may be read in conjunction with the case published by Mr. S. W. Woollett, in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of October 2nd. The wife of a well-to-do farmer had two confinements under the care of another medical man, and something went wrong each time, so that for the third Dr. Fraser was asked to attend her, and came to the conclusion that his services would be required either during Christmas week, 1882, or the first week in January. The time came; weeks, months passed, and he was not called till June 10th, 1883. She was delivered during the early hours of June 11th, with short forceps, of a fine female child, there being an inequality between the capacity of the pelvis and the head of child. This was fully six months after her expected time, and she could not explain her error, if error there was. He has twice since attended her, each time using forceps, for which she now asks, and the three children are all living, and doing well.

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

Dr. P. T. Duncan, Croydon; Dr. W. Macvie, Bootle; Dr. Styrap, Shrewsbury; Dr. Aitken, Rome; Mr. W. Eassie, London; Mr. C. E. Richmond, Warrington; Mr. W. H. Hastings, London; Dr. H. Dalton, Harrogate; Mr. W. T. Grant, London; Mr. H. W. Holder, Manchester; Mr. Ralph Stockman, University of Edinburgh; Enquirer; The Secretary of the Manchester Medical Society; Mr. Alex. M. Stalker, Dundee; Mr. Duncan J. Reid, Dundee; The Clerk of the County Asylum, Fareham; Mr. A. F. Stevens, Ixworth; Mr. W. Donovan, Birmingham; Dr. Prosser James, London; Mr. Shirley Murphy, London; Mr. Price Morris, Colwyn, North Wales; Mr. Richard E. D. Robb, Glasgow; Surgeon-Major C. MacDonagh Cuffe, Calcutta; Mr. J. Phillips, London; Mr. J. Dysart McCaw, Belfast; Dr. Martin Oxley, Liverpool; Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome, and Co., London; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; Dr. Edwards, London; Mr. W. Wilberforce Smith, London; Surgeon-Major Sain-

bridge, Karachi; Dr. Mackenzie, Glossop, Manchester; Dr. A. M. Edge, Manchester; Dr. J. F. Edwards, Philadelphia; B.S., M.B. Lond.; Mr. Lennox Browne, London; Dr. Kelly, Taunton; Mr. Cheesewright, Rotherham; Sir Walter Foster, Birmingham; Dr. A. T. Myers, London; Mr. H. W. G. Macleod, London; Dr. J. Strahan, Belfast; Dr. Markham Skerriit, Bristol; Dr. Steele, Guy's Hospital; Mr. G. St. G. Tyner, Downpatrick; Dr. Lush, Weymouth; Dr. Pisani, Malta; Mr. J. A. Mackenzie, Farnworth; Mr. Carl Sielbers, London; Dr. W. Macfie Campbell, Liverpool; Dr. Collingridge, Greenwich; Miss T. Plowman, North Curry, Taunton; Dr. F. Hewitt, London; Dr. Macpherson, London; Nurse Clarke, London; Dr. J. Anderson, London; Mr. H. Percy Dunn, London; Dr. Pavy, London; Dr. I. K. Milne, Shipham; Dr. J. Adam, Dingwall; Mr. H. Gilbert Nicholson, Hereford; Dr. H. Handford, Nottingham; Mr. Walter Pearce, Maidenhead; Dr. W. E. Hacon, Christchurch, New Zealand; Mr. J. W. Hickman, Delta, York Co., Pennsylvania; Mr. L. Humphry, Cambridge; Mr. R. Crosier, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. Vincent Jackson, Wolverhampton; Mr. F. R. Humphreys, London; Mr. J. P. Massingham, Stoke-on-Trent; Dr. Maxwell, Woolwich; Dr. A. Midgley Cash, Torquay; Dr. Brailey, London; Dr. Percy Frankland, London; Dr. G. Lindsay Steven, Glasgow; Dr. W. Woodward, Worcester; J. T. H.; Dr. G. E. Shuttleworth, Lancaster; A Member of the B. M. A., and M.R.C.P. Edin.; The Misses Chreiman, London; Mr. W. Duncan, Ridgeway, Frome; Mr. J. F. Stevenson, Glasgow; Dr. Edwyn Andrew, Shrewsbury; Dr. M. Charteris, Glasgow; Mr. J. Vesey Fitzgerald, Birmingham; Mr. Paul Swain, Plymouth; Mr. W. H. Plaister, Tottenham; Professor Dunstan, London; Sir Francis Bolton, London; Dr. Bourneville, Paris; Mr. James Cantlie, London; Mr. J. Hadley, London; Mr. Blackett, London; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Mr. T. Bowes, Barton, Staffordshire; Dr. C. E. Ryan, Emly, Tipperary; Mr. P. H. Walker, Glasgow; Mr. A. Douglas, Birmingham; Mr. E. Arnold, Chichester; Dr. Brand, Driffield; Mr. Edward Catterell, Bicester; Messrs. W. and A. S. Bradshaw, Nottingham; Mr. James Turnbull, Dunbar; The Secretary of the Royal Infirmary, Hull; Mr. A. H. Young, Manchester; Mr. J. Brindley James, London; Dr. J. Hutchinson, Glasgow; Mr. E. S. Jackson, Carnforth; Mr. George Eastes, London; Mr. R. M. Gover, London; Dr. Dolan, Halifax; Mr. G. Melmoth Scott, Cambridge; Mr. F. Treves, London; Messrs. Jevons and Ryley, Liverpool; Dr. A. Yule, Haslemere; Mr. R. McBride, Gilford, co. Down; Dr. J. Dreschfeld, Manchester; Mr. A. W. Loveridge, Cardiff; Our Paris Correspondent; Our Dublin Correspondent; The Secretary of the Medical Society of London; The Secretary of the Hunterian Society, London; Mr. William Wadham, London; Dr. C. R. Illingworth, Accrington; Mr. T. Scattergood, Leeds; Dr. Ralton, Manchester; Mr. J. R. Stewart, Glasgow; Mr. A. Browne, Nottingham; Dr. W. H. Bellot, Leamington; Mr. A. J. Freeman, Aix-les-Bains; Mr. Myer Dutch, Crewe; Dr. A. A. T. Sloan, Edinburgh; Mr. Simeon Snell, Sheffield; Mr. J. H. Pugh, London; The Registrar of the University of Durham College of Medicine; Dr. J. Ryley, Great Yarmouth; Dr. Murdoch Brown, Edinburgh; Mr. R. M. Craven, Southport; Mr. P. Edward Dove, London; Mr. Cottenham Farmer, Hexham; Dr. E. Cresswell Baber, Brighton; Mr. W. Cody, Longford; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

- A Commentary of the Diseases of India. By Norman Chevers, C.I.E., M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1886.
Disease and Sin; a new Text-book for Medical and Divinity Students. By A Medical Muser. London: Wyman and Sons. 1886.
General Paralysis of the Insane. By W. J. Mickle, M.D. Second Edition, enlarged and re-written. London: H. K. Lewis. 1886.
Experimental Chemistry, founded on the work of Dr. Julius Adolph Stöckhard. By C. W. Heaton, F.I.C., F.C.S. New Edition. London: G. Bell and Sons. 1886.
Outlines of Lectures on Physiology. By T. Wellesley Mills, M.A., M.D. Montreal W. Drysdale and Co. 1886.

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

Seven lines and under	—	—	—	—	£0 8 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 "	—	—	—	80 "

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.