

his possession. It may interest some of your readers to know that through the generosity of Mr. Jardine the last-named copy is now in the library of the Royal College of Surgeons.

SELF-HELP FOR HOSPITALS.

DISGUSTED writes: I think with "Miserable Dietu" that private dispensaries should be suppressed, because the persons left in charge are not trustworthy, pretending before the public to be what they are not. I know a case where a simple L.S.A. palms himself off to his patients as Dr. —, physician, that being the style and title on the dispensary door, and drives about in a carriage and pair; the real "Dr." if there be such a party, is never seen. If such men are to be allowed to parade themselves before the public as Doctors of Medicine and physicians because no one will come forward and expose their effrontery, the sooner these titles, which have been, up to the present time, used by those members of the profession who have enjoyed superior educational advantages, and have been supposed to be gifted with higher intelligence and superior medical acumen, are dropped, the better; they are beginning to stink in the nostrils of the profession.

THE EPIDEMIC OF PNEUMONIA AT MIDDLESBROUGH.

DR. C. LOVEGROVE (Flinton) writes: In the JOURNAL of July 7th there is a notice of Dr. Ballard's visits to the above town to investigate an outbreak of pneumonia there which has persisted for some months past. It may not be uninteresting to state that during the latter part of the winter and early spring I had in my practice, among the hills of Wales, at an altitude of about 600 or 700 feet above sea-level, what might also be called an epidemic of the same disease; nearly every other case was of this complaint of a severe type, and mostly in adults. Doubtless the sparseness of the population, combined with the respiration of pure air in thorough ventilation, contributed much to the male mortality that prevailed; this epidemic of disease of the respiratory organs seemed eventually to merge itself into one of diphtheria, and then finally die out. I heard, too, that in neighbouring districts pneumonia prevailed largely, causing a good many deaths. From this I am inclined to think that the epidemic has not fixed on Middlesbrough only, but that the population there being crowded, and the town itself not in the happiest state of sanitary condition, together with the habits of the people, has caused the disease to find a suitable soil in which to grow, thus causing a much greater mortality. Upon inquiry, I suspect the disease will be found much more prevalent this year over the northern part of the country, due, doubtless, to the extraordinary constant and extreme variations of temperature prevailing, the wind ranging from east to west through the northern hemisphere continually. If these short remarks should in any way help to solve the present outbreak I shall be glad.

DIPHTHERIA FROM A FOWL.

DR. C. R. ILLINGWORTH (Accrington) writes: Dr. Hoadley Gabb, of Hastings, has sent me the following notes; and given his permission to publish them if you think them of sufficient interest.

"A fowl with diphtheria was brought to the house of a veterinary surgeon on April 24th, and died on the 29th. The feeding and nursing of the bird devolved on a lad, aged 14, who was assisted by his brother, aged 5. On the evening of May 11th I was called to see the little boy of 5, who had been poorly for a day or two. He had enlarged cervical glands on the left side, which had come on rapidly. He was a delicate little fellow; with fair hair, and anæmic aspect. The temperature was 103° F., pulse between 120 and 130. The fauces were more or less covered with diphtheritic membrane, the left tonsil more especially. I gave bark and acid, and ordered the parts to be frequently painted with Barff's boroglyceride, which the father of the child undertook effectually to do. On the 13th there was no improvement, but a more thorough extension to the right side. Temperature 104°, and pulse still very rapid. Ordered to continue the painting, and to take the following mixture: ℞ Sol. hydrarg. bichlor. 3iij; sodii iodid. gr. x; ferri am. cit., gr. xx; syr. aurant. 3ss; aq. ad. 3ij; m. ft. mist.; 3j secundis horis. 15th. Temperature 100°, pulse 90; throat clearing, and tumefaction of the glands subsiding. The father (a Fellow of the Royal Veterinary College) was much struck with the improvement. 17th. Temperature subnormal, diphtheritic exudation gone. Mercurial mixture left off, and iron and chlorate of potash given. With the exception of a sharp attack of urticaria the boy was convalescent.

"The day after this case came under my care, the boy who fed the fowl was very feverish, and had similar patches over his fauces, but not to the same extent as his brother. I had his throat painted with the boroglyceride. A sister, aged 8, had also a similar explosion on the fauces. Bark and acid and boroglyceride was the treatment. On the 18th the mother, who had nursed them, was attacked, and was similarly treated. They were all kept well up with beef-tea and stimulants. I ceased my attendance on the family on May 24th."

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

- The Abortive Treatment of Specific Febrile Disorders by the Binioidide of Mercury. By C. R. Illingworth, M.D., M.R.C.S. London: H. K. Lewis. 1888.
- Treatment of Rupture of the Female Perineum Immediate and Remote. By George Granville Bantock, M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1888.
- A Handbook of the Theory and Practice of Medicine. By Frederick T. Roberts, M.D., F.R.C.P. London: H. K. Lewis. 1888.
- Catalogue of Lewis's Medical and Scientific Library, including a Classified Index of Subjects. London: Lewis's Library. 1888.
- The Applied Anatomy of the Nervous System. By Ambrose L. Ranney, A.M., M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1888.
- The Intestinal Diseases of Infancy and Childhood. By A. Jacobi, M.D. Detroit: G. S. Davis. 1887.
- A Descriptive Catalogue of the Pathological Museum of Charing Cross Hospital. By John H. Morgan, M.A., F.R.C.S. London: Harrison and Sons. 1888.

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