

## LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 429, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 429, Strand, W.C., London.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that all letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor at the office of the JOURNAL, and not to his private house.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the Manager, 429, Strand, W.C.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication. CORRESPONDENTS not answered are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

MANUSCRIPTS FORWARDED TO THE OFFICE OF THIS JOURNAL CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE RETURNED.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with *Despatched Copies*.

### QUERIES.

#### CLIMATE OF TEXAS IN PHTHISIS.

M.K.Q.C.P.I. asks if the climate of North-West Texas (Concho County) would be unsuitable for a phthisical patient who has an old cavity in the apex of his right lung. The patient has friends living there, and would receive every attention and comfort.

#### NITROBENZOLE FUMES.

DR. R. PROSSER WHITE (Wigan) would feel greatly obliged if any gentleman connected with works using nitrobenzole would give him some practical hints either as to the use of respirators or other methods to prevent or mitigate the evil consequences of the work upon the men employed in its manufacture.

#### CHLORAL HYDRATE IN MIDWIFERY.

DR. D. J. LAWSON (Portland) would be glad to learn if any cases of harm resulting from the employment of chloral hydrate in midwifery have been reported or have occurred in the practice of any readers of the JOURNAL.

#### TYPHOID FEVER AND GENERAL HOSPITALS.

DR. HERBERT SIEVEKING (Manchester Square) writes: I should very much like to obtain a knowledge of the experience of some of your readers with regard to the admission of typhoid patients at hospitals, which are supposed to exist for the reception of general cases and supported by voluntary contributions. Recently I made an application at a provincial hospital with eighteen beds, in a town of over 5,000 inhabitants, for the admission of a patient (a friendless man in a strange place, lying at a much frequented temperance tavern, where the noise for fourteen hours out of the twenty-four was distracting) whose case and circumstances in every respect demanded skilled hospital nursing and treatment. At the hospital there were vacant beds, good nursing, and quiet. The man had a temperature of 104.5°. The case was refused on the ground that it might be typhoid fever; there was no question or suspicion of its being anything else, unless it were a severe simple fever, which latter alternative was not unfavourable to the hospital medical authority.

I was told that typhoid fever, actual or possible, was invariably refused at the institution referred to. Surely this must be an unusual rule, and, as far as my experience goes, founded on no reason-appalling ground.

### ANSWERS.

#### MEDICAL FEES.

BARTS.—Full information on the subject is contained in *Medico-Chirurgical Tariffs*, by Jukes de Styrap, M.K.Q.C.P., 4th ed., London, 1888 (H. K. Lewis).

#### DIET IN GALL-STONES.

DR. LEONARD G. PETERS (Gobowen) writes: In reply to M.B., M.A., I beg to suggest that a simple plain diet is the most suitable generally for his patient, with plenty of diluent drinks. Milk, cream, and butter may be taken freely both during the attacks and between them. He should also frequently take a cholagogue purge during the intervals. For the attacks pil. hydrarg., followed by large doses of olive oil, has been very highly recommended of late.

### NOTES, LETTERS, ETC.

#### POLYPHARMACY.

X. Y. Z. sends us the following examples, which prove that the evil of polypharmacy, to which Professor Gairdner pointed in his presidential address, has not yet died out. They show also that the vice of polypharmacy is not confined to L.S.A.'s, for the perpetrator of the following is not only L.S.A. but M.D.

R Amyli nitrit. mij; acid. nit. hyd. dil., acid. sulph. arom., aa 5j; tr. jumbul. 5iss; tr. quina ammon., 3iss; tr. chlorof. co., 5ij; tr. card. co., 5ij; blsm. subnit., gr. 48, ess. anisi et menth. p., aa mix; mist. creta, 3j; aq. laurocerasi, 3ij; aq. anethi ad 3vij; C. 5iv tercia q.h. ex aq. R Vin. antimonialis, 3j; vin. ipecacuanhæ, 5iss; tr. senegæ, 3ij; sodæ bicarb., 3iv; liq. am. cit., 3ij; ess. anisi, mxx; dec. senegæ, 3ij; am. carb., am. chlor., aa 5j; syr. toluani, 3iv; aq. camph. q.s., 3vij. One dessertspoonful in twice amount of water every hour. R Ess. anisi, m20; hyd. c. creta, 5j, gr. iv; pot. bicarb., 3iss; mist. rhei co. q.s., 3vij; 3ss t. d. s. ex aqua. R Pot. cit., 3ij; conf. sulphuris, 3j; aq. ad. q.s. f.m., 3vij; C. 5i p. r. n.

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### BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Curve Pictures of London. By A. B. McDowell. London: Sampson Low and Co.  
Another World; or, the Fourth Dimension. By A. T. Schofield, M.D. London: Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1888.  
Hydrocele and its Treatment. By J. S. McArtie. Dublin: Fannin and Co. 1888.  
The Bacon Shakespere Question. By C. Stopes. London: J. G. Johnson. 1888.  
Mackenzie, Sir Morell. La Higiene de los Organos Vocales. Traducido de la Quinta Edicion. Por Ramon de la Sota y Lastra, M.D. Madrid. 1888.  
Landmarks, Medical and Surgical. By Luther Holden. Fourth Edition. London: J. and A. Churchill.

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