

## LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE CURRENT WEEK'S JOURNAL SHOULD REACH THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN MIDDAY POST ON WEDNESDAY. TELEGRAMS CAN BE RECEIVED ON THURSDAY MORNING.

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 Duplicate Copies.

### QUERIES.

HOME FOR A CASE OF INCIPIENT PHTHISIS.

A. B. would be grateful if any member could tell him of a "home" on the south coast, suitable for a lady with limited means, the daughter of a clergyman, who has been a nurse in a large hospital, and now has premonitory signs of phthisis.

TREATMENT OF DANDRUFF.

A COUNTRY MEMBER would be glad to be informed of a cure for dandruff accompanied by excessive falling out of the hair. He is at present treating a friend for it, and so far it has proved unamenable to anything he can suggest. He has tried glycerine and borax, also bay rum, and finally vaseline and perchloride of mercury, but none of these have had any effect.

HOME FOR IMBECILE CHILD.

R. D. would be glad to hear of a home for an imbecile child of poor parents, not eligible for Earlswood.

WANTED A DIAGNOSIS.

F.R.C.S. Ed. writes: I was called to a confinement at 11 P.M. Child alive at 4 A.M. on the following morning. Membranes ruptured at 4.30 A.M. Child (full time) born shortly after 5, stillborn. The mother is healthy, has two living children, and has had one miscarriage brought on by riding on the switchback railway. What was the cause of death? Should I have adopted any special measures before the birth? I left the case to Nature.

### ANSWERS.

INVETERATE PSORIASIS.

DR. G. E. J. GREENE (Farns, co. Wexford) would recommend "Enquirer" to well swab the affected parts with undiluted "huile de cade" once daily for at least a week; after which, as the application is rather painful, it might be discontinued for a couple of days, and then applied again. If the parts are bathed in warm water before putting on the tar, its action is more rapid. McWade's mixture is about the best internal medicament, even though there be no history of syphilis. I am sure that, although preparations of tar have already been tried, if "oil of cade" is diligently employed in the manner indicated it will give good results.

A. S. V. G., in reply to "Enquirer," suggests that the use of an ointment with a basis of lanoline, combined with a stimulating pine oil, such as pumiline or pinol, might prove a useful adjunct to constitutional treatment.

RINGWORM.

DR. C. R. ILLINGWORTH (Accrington) writes: In answer to "Almost Disheartened," allow me to advise the application of a 1 in 4 solution of the biniodide of mercury in the iodide of sodium. There is no more potent germicide than the biniodide, and no more penetrating salt than the vehicle I have suggested. I find that one application is quite sufficient. I prepare it thus: to half a drachm of the red iodide of mercury add half an ounce of a 1 in 4 solution of the iodide of sodium in water, and shake until dissolved. Dilute this strong solution of the biniodide with three parts of water, and apply thoroughly with a camel's hair brush to the parts affected. If the application be "too thorough," a blister will be formed.

### NOTES, LETTERS, ETC.

THE EFFECT OF CASTRATION ON THE VOICE.

MR. SLADE INNES BAKER (Abingdon) writes: A patient of mine, suffering from tubercular disease, had both testicles removed some three months since. Up to the present time not the slightest change can be detected in the voice, and his power of singing is not impaired.

LONGEVITY AND MALIGNANCY.

MR. W. JOHNSON SMYTH, M.B. (Essex County Asylum) writes: It is foreign to my present aim to supplement any of the very able articles that have from time to time appeared in your columns on the subject of malignant growths. My aim is rather to direct attention to a phase of the question that recent contributors have, I think, overlooked, and which is at least an interesting

one. Professor Annandale has pointed out in his clinical lectures in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, that in a great many of the cases of malignant disease there was a history of longevity on the part of the parents. Recently I have met a case of fatal malignant disease in a man whose father died at the age of 84, and mother at 78 (and he had an uncle 104 years of age). So, too, we have a remarkable case of longevity in the case of the parents of the late German Emperor. It would be interesting to know the experience of those whose greater opportunities in dealing with such cases would enable them to speak with much weight.

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

Mr. Arthur Jackson, Sheffield; Mr. A. Underwood, London; The Stretton Hills Mineral Water Company; Dr. D. Embleton, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. A. Cory, Geneva; Dr. T. Llewellyn Nash, Dublin; Dr. Thin, London; Dr. T. Otterson Wood, London; Dr. W. W. Hardwicke, Dovercourt; Professor Rawdon Macnamara, Dublin; Surgeon in the Civil Service; Mr. H. Newman Lawrence, London; The Honorary Secretary of the College of State Medicine, London; Mr. E. E. Dufty, Rotherham, Yorks; Dr. G. Payne Best, London; Mr. J. Whitehouse, Edinburgh; Messrs. J. Maclehorse and Sons, Glasgow; Dr. Beaven Rake, Trinidad; Messrs. T. Newbery and Sons, London; Mr. E. A. Gaynes Doyle, Trinidad; Mr. John Ferris, Torquay; Mr. E. A. Ryan-Tenison, Bexhill-on-Sea; Our Manchester Correspondent; Mr. A. Berrill, South Woodford; Dr. C. R. Drysdale, London; Mr. J. T. Jones, London; Dr. C. R. Illingworth, Accrington; Mr. O. R. P. Owen, Bala; Mr. A. W. Robson, Birmingham; Dr. A. R. Manby, East Rudham; Dr. M. Benson, Wigan; Mr. F. R. Humphreys, London; Mr. F. Brown, Pirbright; Dr. F. Parsons, West Worthing; Mr. W. A. Day, Redcar; Mr. C. H. Sers, London; Mr. H. D. Buss, Paris; Dr. T. Linn, Paris; Mr. H. C. Fox, Walton-on-Naze; Dr. M. Ryan, Dublin; Mr. G. R. Murray, Barrasford; Dr. S. W. Smith, Cheltenham; Mr. J. B. Galie, Swansea; Mr. J. Limont, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. H. C. Gordon, Edinburgh; Dr. P. Boobyer, Nottingham; Mr. J. R. Philpots, Parkstone; Dr. Hugh Woods, London; Dr. A. T. Bretts, Watford; Mr. J. A. Dow, London; Mr. G. D. Pollock, London; Dr. A. H. N. Lewers, London; Mr. R. Lamond, Glasgow; Mr. R. A. Farrar, London; Dr. H. G. Lee, Oxford; Dr. T. Jackson, Hull; Dr. R. M. Wyckoff, New York; Mr. Henry Horton, London; Dr. R. Rentoul, Liverpool; Dr. G. B. Mead, Newmarket; Mr. G. Batho Griffiths, London; Dr. D. Campbell Black, Glasgow; Mr. L. B. Claremont, London; Mr. Frank Greaves, London; Mr. T. A. Mitchell, London; Dr. P. Caldwell Smith, Motherwell; Dr. R. B. Selby, Port William; Mr. J. P. Parkinson, London; Dr. R. H. Perks, Devonport; Mr. D. Hughes, Deal; Mr. O. T. Stephenson, Woolston; Mr. R. Weaver, London; Mr. C. J. Hewetson, Scarborough; Mr. W. P. Dester, West Hartlepool; Mr. J. H. S. May, Plymouth; Mr. Stanley Dickinson, Colne; Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., London; Dr. R. Davison, Battle; Mr. P. O'Donaghue, Loughrea; Dr. H. T. Rutherford, London; Dr. A. S. Gubb, London; Mr. C. E. Oldacres, Billesdon; Mr. H. D. Parsloe, London; Dr. F. W. Cock, London; Dr. A. E. Sarsom, London; Messrs. Street and Co., London; Mr. E. Burchell, London; Mr. J. E. Edwards, Chester; Mr. R. M. Craven, Southport; Mr. A. C. Wildman, Penzance; Mr. R. C. Chicken, Nottingham; Mr. J. M. Scott, Denny; Mr. W. C. Crofts, London; Mr. F. Yate, Goldaming; Mr. W. M. Jones, Rotherham; Dr. M. Handfield-Jones, London; Our Swiss Correspondent; etc.

### BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

A Guide to the Alterations in the British Pharmacopoeia (1885), comprising an epitome of the changes. By Prosser James, M.D. Third Edition. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1889.

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