

Jane in spite of the small strawberry mark on her arm; and so on, and so on. Extremists, of course, have their place in the sun and do some good. They tend to develop the antibodies of moderation and make us challenge and prove all things, holding fast to that which is true, which, in the long run, is invariably found to be moderate. But, Sir, even in the length of one's epistles to the Editor of THE LANCET one must study the science and practise the art of moderation, and to escape the opposite soft impeachment I will at once subscribe myself

Yours faithfully,

Norwich, Feb. 13th, 1915.

S. JOHNSON TAYLOR.

THE SUPPLY OF LOCUM TENENTS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—May I trespass on your space for a few remarks on this very vital question? When war broke out necessarily a large number of medical men who belonged to the Royal Army Medical Corps were immediately obliged to take up their duties, and many others have in ever-increasing numbers since loyally and patriotically in obedience to their country's call voluntarily thrown up lucrative practices and applied for commissions, and by no means a small number have enlisted in the fighting ranks.

Necessarily, therefore, a largely increased demand has arisen for locum tenents to safeguard the practices at home of those who have nobly offered their services and lives for England's honour. Owing to many of those who had hitherto been available as locum tenents also responding to the call it has become increasingly difficult to find enough reliable substitutes, and I regret to have to say that there is a tendency on the part of a few to take advantage of the shortage to demand fees quite incompatible with the services rendered. May I through your columns implore all who are in any way able to take up duty again to offer their services in the present crisis?

I am glad to say that many retired practitioners up to 70 years of age have loyally come forward and most satisfactorily filled some of the gaps, and some of our Belgian Allies who can speak English a little have been of great assistance for temporary work, but more are urgently needed if we are to ensure that the practices of those who have so nobly rallied round the flag shall not suffer. There is plenty of work for every available qualified man, especially if prepared to show his patriotism and loyalty to his profession by accepting fees in some measure proportionate to the size of the practice he is taking charge of.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Adam-street, Adelphi, Feb. 8th, 1915. PERCIVAL TURNER.

SULPHUR AND RHEUMATISM.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In reference to what Sir Lauder Brunton says about sulphur and rheumatism in your issue of Feb. 6th, I think the following case is to the point. A patient, aged 55 years, had suffered from joint pains, called rheumatism, since he was 19 fairly continuously, and no treatment did him any good. It happened that he took sulphur for the relief of an attack of lumbago and continued it for some four months as a prophylactic. His rheumatism was completely cured and has remained so for some six years, during which he

has continued to take two or three troch. sulph. two days a week. The essence of the treatment as a cure is that it should go on some months before the cure is likely to obtain.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Harley-street, W., Feb. 13th, 1915.

SHEFFIELD NEAVE.

THE SHORTAGE OF RESIDENT MEDICAL OFFICERS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Dr. R. R. Rentoul's letter in your last issue, which somewhat severely comments on mine of Feb. 6th, has been the means of my discovering that in my letter the word "voluntary" is inserted before the word "residence," thereby giving the impression that we wished to get the doctors' services for nothing. Such is far from the case; we are quite ready to pay such doctors even more than the "lost dog's wage," which Dr. Rentoul mentioned as the ordinary rate of pay. If we cannot pay the princely salaries that Dr. Rentoul states obtain in Government services, it is our misfortune and not our fault. At the present time the difficulty we are experiencing is being felt by almost every hospital in London. To use a colloquialism, residents are hardly to be obtained for love or money.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

W. M. WILCOX,
Secretary.

East London Hospital for Children,
Shadwell, E., Feb. 16th, 1915.

* * * We regret the mistake. Voluntary help is being accorded to some hospitals in a similar dilemma, we understand, and medical men who are able to assist charitable work in this way are discharging a most valuable duty.—ED. L.

TYPHOID AND PARATYPHOID INFECTION IN RELATION TO ANTITYPHOID INOCULATION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Owing to an error in the delivery of the "proof" of the paper which you so kindly published for us last week at very short notice, two small errors remained uncorrected. On p. 325, col. 1, the second line from the bottom should read: "In non-inoculated persons," &c. As it stands the statement is obviously nonsense. On the same page, col. 2, line 35 (about the middle of the page), the figure 700 should be 900, as can be seen from the chart on the following page.

We are, Sir, yours faithfully,

GEORGES DREYER,
E. W. AINLEY WALKER,
ALEX. G. GIBSON.

Department of Pathology, University of Oxford,
Feb. 16th, 1915.

"WOOLNER'S TIP" AND FAMILY RESEMBLANCES.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Apropos of the informing annotation on this subject in THE LANCET of Feb. 13th it may interest your readers to know that Thomas Woolner was probably careful to reproduce the "tip," named after him, in his well-known bust of Darwin now at Cambridge. At least, one may infer that he did so, as it may be felt, when searched for *ad unguem*, to use the old Roman sculptors' phrase, in the left ear of the plaster replica of this bust recently

placed between Huxley and Owen in the museum vestibule of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The plaster bust, presented to the College by Sir Lauder Brunton, Bart., was executed in or after 1869, in which year Woolner sculptured the likeness of Darwin's head. It is not a very good likeness of the great naturalist, a better having probably been caught by Sir Lauder Brunton himself, whose model in clay after the engraving by Jeens in *Nature*, elicited the remark from Darwin, "Well! one never knows what one is like." The pose of this was absolutely correct: Woolner's was not, though Woolner has reproduced the Cro-Magnan brows of the great authority on earliest man. Darwin refers to the "celebrated sculptor, Mr. Woolner," in an early chapter of the "Descent of Man," which was published in 1871. Woolner became aware of the "little blunt point projecting from the inwardly folded margin or helix" when engaged on a bust of Puck. He sent a drawing showing the "tip" to Darwin, which the latter has reproduced in his text. In Woolner's marble bust of Sir John Simon, K.C.B., also at the College, the tip is plainly distinguishable, but it does not reappear in the plaster cast of the same. The older sculptors, such as Chantrey, executed the ear conventionally, if, indeed, they did not hide it under a fringe of hair. This appears on examination.

It is a question how far a sculptor should be a minute anatomist. The Greeks, as Professor Mahaffy points out, were eclectic, and sculptured "combination" limbs or organs, choosing the most shapely points from many models and thus combining an idealised type. This appears in their reproductions of the genital organs of man. M. Rodin, on the other hand, was so intent on reproducing the exact proportions and outlines of limbs, muscles, veins, &c., that he made of his Saint John a sort of squat anatomical model, suggestive of a man divested of underclothing. The statue when sent in competition to the Académie des Beaux Arts was rejected by the judges on the ground that it was a cast from nature—at least, so the legend runs.

With regard to family likenesses, I may mention that an ancestral type sometimes reappears in a surprising manner. The late Paul Fordyce Maitland, a landscape painter familiar some years ago to habitués of Kensington Gardens, might have been Maitland of Lethington returned to life, so strikingly did his fine face resemble that of his ancestor. The same may be said of a living descendant now in London of Mallet du Pan and of Juan Bonaparte. And I trust I am not guilty of impertinence when I say that Miss Hunter Baillie, when standing in front of G. Home's portrait of her illustrious collateral ancestor John Hunter, wearing a brown coat, appeared to interested observers as if she had stepped out of the frame.

Others besides myself may have observed that for one moment just after death a face seems sometimes to change back to the exact resemblance of some familiar family portrait or miniature.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

P. V.

Feb. 15th, 1915.

ON Feb. 15th, at Bow-street police-court, Mr. Hopkins committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court Arthur Alfred Henry Bennett, described as a surgeon of no fixed abode, on the charge of committing perjury in the High Court of Justice in July last during the hearing of the action for libel unsuccessfully brought by Mr. C. H. Stevens against the British Medical Association.

THE BELGIAN DOCTORS' AND PHARMACISTS' RELIEF FUND.

THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the Central Executive Committee was held on Feb. 11th at the office of the British Medical Association, when Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister, librarian and secretary of the Royal Society of Medicine, joined the meeting as a co-opted member of the committee. Correspondence between the chairman, Sir Rickman Godlee, and the President of the General Medical Council was read, showing the difficulty that there would be in securing any remission of, or reduction in the registration fees payable by Belgian graduates now admitted to the British Register under certain conditions. The committee therefore decided to act in accordance with the course of conduct previously decided upon, and the registration fees will be advanced by the Fund in cases where such action appears necessary and suitable, and where the Belgian graduates have received offers of employment.

Dr. Des Vœux took the occasion of the first meeting held since the money which had passed through the treasurer's hands exceeded £5000 to make a short financial statement. He said that £5297 had been received by him and acknowledged in *THE LANCET*, the *British Medical Journal*, and the pharmaceutical journals. More money than this had been subscribed, as certain local funds remained in the hands of the local treasurers, as did the Scottish and Irish Funds. Mentioning the principal subscriptions in detail, he said that so far money had only been received from 1500 people, allowing for the fact that certain large subscriptions had been sent to him with no epitomised details. He had placed £4000 on deposit at the bank, and showed that a sum of about £470 had been spent already, or was arranged to be immediately spent upon pecuniary relief in urgent cases, upon purchase of clothes, upon advances for registration fees, and upon boxes of medical material shipped to Brussels through the Commission for Relief in Belgium. The committee decided to carry on their work for the present upon the same lines, on the one hand helping immediately in necessary cases, and on the other husbanding the money as much as possible, after the relief of urgent distress, so that it may be available as the nucleus of a future international subscription for the rehabilitation of the medical profession in Belgium.

The committee, through the eleemosynary sub-committee, has made grants to certain urgent cases, either for the purchase of necessities like food and clothes, or to facilitate the taking up of paid appointments. The registration fees have also been paid of Belgian medical men who are joining the British Register preparatory to accepting salaried posts.

THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR THE AID OF BELGIAN PHYSICIANS.

The treasurer of the committee of American physicians constituted for the aid of the Belgian medical profession has made a report of all contributions received up to and including Jan. 16th, 1915. A total of \$1.414 had been received by that date, including subscriptions of \$100 from Dr. Franklin H. Martin, Chicago; Dr. F. F. Simpson, Pittsburg; Mrs. John B. Murphy, Chicago; Dr. Abraham Jacobi, New York; and the Academy of Medicine, Cincinnati. The expenditure so far includes the