

Correspondence.

MICROSCOPICAL OBSERVATIONS IN THE BLOOD AND EXCRETA IN CASES OF CHOLERA.

TO THE EDITOR, "INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE."

SIR,—In a supplement to one of your recent issues, Surgeon-Captain Hehir describes a peculiar organism he believes he has seen in the blood and stools of cases of cholera. The drawings accompanying the letter-press are very diagrammatic, which is a pity, but I would like to mention, in passing, for the benefit of anyone not accustomed to work with high power objectives that the amoeboid movements of leucocytes produce figures closely resembling most of those given by Surgeon-Captain Hehir, including even the little hook-like appendages which he has been particular to emphasise.

But what I wish to draw attention to particularly is an insinuation he conveys in his paper that Salol is of use in cholera; that it has a specific curative value over and above the ordinary remedies in use for the treatment of that disease.

You were kind enough to insert a statistical statement which I sent you some time ago on the treatment of cholera. In that statement I compared the ordinary nursing treatment with the so-called "vagus" and Salol methods, and showed that so far as results went, there wasn't a pin's worth of difference between them. I think Salol is probably harmless when used in moderation, but I consider the "vagus" treatment directly hurtful and cruel, in that it gives the patient pain without being followed by any benefit whatever.

GENERAL HOSPITAL,
MADRAS, 3rd May 1892.

JOHN SMYTH, M.D.,
Surgn.-Capt., I. M. S.

INHALATION OF OXYGEN IN CASES OF PNEUMONIA.

TO THE EDITOR, "INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE."

SIR,—Recently reading in the *British Medical Journal* the successful treatment of pneumonia by the inhalation of oxygen, it struck me that the gas might be useful in the collapse stage of cholera, and I therefore write to suggest to those who have an opportunity of obtaining the gas the desirability of giving it a trial. In the case described by Dr. Hamilton Allen in the *Journal* of the 5th March last, and in which oxygen had a most striking effect, the symptoms were lividity, nails blue, extremities quite cold, cold perspirations on forehead, pulse barely perceptible and very irregular; in fact, all the symptoms of collapse. The suggestion may have been made by others, but, if so, I am not aware. I mean to try hypodermic injections of strychnine the next case I get.

TUNDLA, 1st May 1892.

C. SUTCLIFFE,
Medical Officer, E. I. Ry.

Appointments, Leave, &c.

THE Commander-in-Chief in India is pleased to make the following appointments:—

O'KINEALY, Surgeon-Captain F., to the officiating medical charge of the 2nd Bengal Lancers, *vice* Surgeon-Captain A. W. Dawson.

WILKINSON, Surgeon-Captain E., to the officiating medical charge of the 2nd Sikh Infantry, *vice* Surgeon-Captain J. W. Rodgers.

HENVY, Surgeon-Captain W., to the officiating medical charge of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Gurkha Rifles, *vice* Surgeon-Captain G. Duncan.

OWEN, Surgeon-Major W. C., to be Surgeon to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India.

CENTER, W., M.B., Brigade Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, Civil Surgeon, Lahore, is appointed to officiate as Administrative Medical Officer and Sanitary Commissioner, Central Provinces, *vice* Surgeon-Colonel J. G. Pilcher.

MAYNARD, Surgeon-Captain F. P., is appointed to officiate as Civil Surgeon of Burdwan.

BUCHANAN, Surgeon-Captain W. J., is appointed to officiate as Civil Surgeon of Midnapore.

ROGERS, MAYNARD BUCHANAN, Surgeon-Captain the services of have been placed at the temporary disposal of the Bengal Government.

BARIATVALA, Surgeon-Captain, the services of from Bengal, have been lent to the Central Provinces.

BURTON, Surgeon-Captain, from the Madras Establishment, to officiate as Civil Surgeon of Amraoti, *vice* Surgeon-Captain R. B. Roe.

FURLOUGH, LEAVE, &c.

HOLMES, Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, Officiating Inspector-General of Jails, North-Western Provinces, furlough 8 months.

JOHNSTONE, Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, Rangoon, 1 year.

DEWIS, Surgeon-Captain R. F. S., furlough 18 months.

MACRAE, Surgeon-Major R., Civil Surgeon, Champaran, furlough for 8 months (*m. c.*)

WADE, Surgeon-Colonel F. W., Administrative Medical Officer, Allahabad, has been granted 60 days' privilege leave.

Medical News.

CHOLERA IN MADRAS.—During the first week in May there were 140 deaths from cholera in Madras.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CHOLERA.—The Russians are taking the strictest measures on the Afghan and Persian frontiers to exclude cholera.

LADY ROBERTS' HOME.—Lady Roberts' "Home in the Hills" for Lady Nurses and the Officers' Hospital Convalescent Home was opened at Murree on the 15th ultimo.

CHOLERA AT PESHAWAR.—Reports received state that cholera is decreasing in Pindadankhan, but is prevailing on an alarming extent in Peshawar city and adjacent villages.

DR. WATT ON THE OPIUM QUESTION.—Dr. George Watt, C. I. E., states that in the course of sixteen years during which he has visited almost every part of India, he has searched in vain for evidence of the injurious effects of opium.

THE DRINKING WATER OF RAWAL PINDI.—Good drinking water has now been brought up as far as the Mall in Rawal Pindi, and is rapidly being carried on up to the Church Lines, where some of the King's Royal Rifles are located.

CLINICAL LECTURES ON DISEASES OF THE EYE.—Dr. Accacio Da Gama, the Chief Surgeon of the Bombay Eye and Ear Infirmary, is republishing in parts a series of clinical lectures on certain diseases of the eye which he has delivered at that institution. The first part deals with cataract and its treatment.

CHOLERA ON THE GILGIT ROAD.—Owing to cholera prevailing on the road *via* Kharian, the men and stores that had been despatched for Gilgit by that route had to return. It is not yet decided by which route the stores will be sent.

TRIAL OF FILTERS.—The question of adopting a more efficient filter than those in present use with the Indian Army has lately been receiving attention, and three 4-gallon filters have been obtained from England for trial in this country.

CHOLERA AT KABUL.—Accounts of the cholera at Kabul state that on the 8th day there were 300 cases of cholera among the worshippers in the Jumma Musjid, 200 proving fatal. Among the deaths was that of Abdul Rahman Khan, father of the governor of Herat.

CHOLERA AT TIRI.—There have been a good many deaths from cholera about Tiri. In one village containing twenty-five houses there are said to have been twenty-five fatal cases, or one to every house. It is said the villagers fly from their homes as the disease appears among them.

THE MEDICAL REPORTER.—A new Medical Journal has been started in Calcutta named "The Medical Reporter," Edited by Lawrence Fernandez, M. D. Its object is the furtherance of Medical Science especially with reference to the tropics, by reporting the practice, experience and observation of those willing to aid the editor in his enterprise. It is a monthly journal.