CORRESPONDENCE.

The Spanish Language and the P.-A.M. Congress.

NEW YORK, Sept. 23, 1896.

To the Editor:—Several physicians who think of attending the Second Pan-American Medical Congress, to be held in the city of Mexico, if they could secure the services of a well known Spanish speaking physician to act as their guide and general translator, have asked me whether I am willing to go with them in that capacity. I replied that I have no objections, but in order that the number of physicians composing the party be still larger will you be so kind as to say a few words about this matter in the JOURNAL?

There are, no doubt a large number of professional gentlemen who would willingly go to Mexico, taking advantage of the reduction of the price of the trip for that occasion, if they could find some confrère thoroughly qualified to act as their *cicerone*. I remain sincerely yours,

DR. A. M. FERNANDEZ-YBARRA.

235 Thompson Street.

Straw Charcoal with Boric Acid as an Antiseptic.

VALLEY CITY, N. D., Sept. 23, 1896.

To the Editor:—It may interest some of the JOURNAL readers to know that a mixture composed of one part, by weight, of muslin-sifted straw charcoal to two parts of powdered boric acid will heal old ulcers or wounds very rapidly; fresh cut or torn surfaces are healed as if by magic. This may be old to many of the profession, but I never heard of it until I used it. But even if old it may do no harm to remind all that it is a very valuable combination.

Fraternally

F. H. DEVAUX, M.D.

SOCIETY NEWS.

The Central Medical Society of New York.—This Society will meet at Rochester, N. Y., October 20. Sixteen central counties of the State are represented in the membership of this society, which meets annually, alternating between Buffalo, Syracuse and Rochester.

The American Academy of Railway Surgeons.—This society, after a very interesting and instructive meeting at Chicago, closed its third annual session September 25. Chicago was chosen as the meeting place for next year. The following officers were elected: President, L. E. Lemen, Denver; vice-presidents, M. C. M. Gardner of San Francisco, R. Ortega de Diaz, Mexico; secretary, D. C. Bryant, Omaha; treasurer, C. B. Kibler, Corry, Pa.; editor, R. Harvey Reed, Columbus, Ohio.

Canadian Medical Association.—This association has elected the following officers for 1896-97: President, V. H. Moore, Brockville, Ont.; vice-presidents: For Prince Edward Island, Peter Conroy, Charlottetown; Nova Scotia, J. F. Black, Halifax; New Brunswick, Thos. Walker, St. John; Quebec, J. M. Beau-soleil, Montreal; Ontario, W. W. Dickson, Pembroke; Manitoba, R. S. Thornton, Deloraine; North-West Territory, E. H. C. Rouleau, Calgary; British Columbia, E. B. C. Hannington, Victoria; general secretary, F. N. G. Starr, Toronto; treasurer, H. B. Small, Ottawa. The place of meeting in 1897 will be Montreal, in conjunction with meeting of the British Medical Association.

The Autopsical Society of Paris.—This twenty-year old Society, known as La Société d'Autopsie Mutuelle, has grown so rapidly in membership that it now numbers about one hundred Fellows. They are nearly all, says the *Medico-Surgical Bulletin*, scientists of note, several of whom are women. It has for its purpose the placing of the brains of its members at the disposal of surviving members for examination and dissection.

Fourteen brains, neatly catalogued, are now contained in a glass case at the end of the meeting room, and the fifteenth, which was during life the property of M. Abel Havelacque, rector of the Anthropologic Society, now rests immersed in alcohol on the table of the dissecting room, where the man's former associates will meet to weigh, probe, cut and discuss it.

Association of Erie Railway Surgeons.—The annual meeting was held at Lakewood, September 21. An accident occurred at the opening of the session which interfered with the pleasure of the gathering. Dr. John L. Eddy, of Olean, the president of the association, a well-known surgeon, stepped into an open elevator shaft and fell to the bottom, a distance of eight feet. He was at once removed to his room, where it was found that he had sustained a deep cut across the forehead, a badly sprained ankle and a severely bruised hip. On account of this accident to the president, the vice-president, Dr. Webb J. Kelly of Galion, Ohio, presided. Dr. S. Birdsall of Susquehanna, Pa., presented a paper on "Symes ankle-joint amputations;" Dr. F. W. Thomas of Marion, Ohio, "Injuries of the throat;" Dr. C. C. Kinnaman of Ashland, Ohio, "Symmetrical gangrene;" Dr. C. M. Daniels of Buffalo, chief surgeon of the Erie Railway, told about his relief and hospital organization scheme, as intended to be adopted by the company. Other papers were: "Traumatic spinal neurosis," by Dr. N. R. Harnden of Waverly, N. Y.; "Painful stumps after amputation," by Dr. C. B. Kibler of Corry, Pa.; "Railway shock," by Floyd S. Crego, of Buffalo; "Clinic review of cases the past year" by Dr. Thomas Manley of New York. The annual election of officers resulted as follows: President, Dr. Webb J. Kelly, Galion, Ohio; vice-president, Dr. F. W. Thomas, Marion, Ohio; secretary and treasurer, Dr. W. W. Appley of Cohocton, N. Y.

Tri-State Medical Society of Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee.—The eighth annual meeting will be held in Chattanooga, Oct. 13-15, 1896. The following partial list of papers indicates that the session will be of more than usual interest:

Convulsions in children treated with large doses of morphin. Y. L. Abernathy, Hill City, Tenn.

The therapy of antipyretics. P. L. Brouillette, Huntsville, Ala.

Cystitis; report of cases. D. S. Middleton, Rising Fawn, Ga. A new splint for fractures below the surgical neck. G. A. Baxter, Chattanooga.

Humphrey's operation (amputation of the penis) with presentation of patient. Cooper Holtzclav, Chattanooga.

Diseases of the veru montanum (caput gallinaginis). W. Frank Glenn, Nashville.

Acute pelvic congestion. Valentine Taliaferro, Atlanta.

Operations for abscess of the liver. W. C. Townes, Chattanooga.

Treatment of pus in the pelvis. W. E. B. Davis, Birmingham. Some remarks on syphilis. W. F. Westmoreland, Atlanta.

Observations on the treatment of specific and non-specific venereal ulcers. Wm. S. Goldsmith, Atlanta.

Bacteriologic data in the drainage of the peritoneal cavity. George S. Brown, Birmingham.

A statistical report of some of the more recent remedies used in the treatment of tuberculosis, and summary of recent preventive methods of value. R. H. Hayes, Union Springs, Ala.

The Turkish bath; its therapeutic indications. Louise Eleanor Smith, Chattanooga.

Microscopic and chemie aids to diagnosis. Katherine R. Collins, Atlanta.

Vaginal hysterectomy for bilateral suppurative processes of the uterine adnexa. W. D. Haggard, Jr., Nashville.

Some obstetric complications with report of cases. R. R. Kime, Atlanta.

Puerperal eclampsia. Searle Harris, Union Springs, Ala.

Puerperal eclampsia. J. E. George, Rockwood, Tenn.

Medicine; Hippocratic and operatic. John P. Stewart, Attalla, Ala.

Diseases and treatment of the accessory sinuses of the nose. B. F. Travis, Chattanooga.

Report of a case of bradycardia. W. C. Bilbro, Murfreesboro.

Paper on diseases of the eye. J. M. Crawford, Atlanta.