

we constantly observe in the coagula within the heart, a separation of the lymph and coloured particles.

ERGOT OF RYE IN TETANUS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Traumatic tetanus is almost universally found to be an intractable and fatal disease. The ergot of rye, taken in the ordinary state of the habit, produces many symptoms so analogous to those of a decided tetanic character, that it has been a question with me as to what effect might be expected from its use in traumatic tetanus, by substituting spurious symptoms for those of the disease. If this suggestion has not as yet been offered to the consideration of the profession, I shall be glad to have the hint canvassed, having myself found the ordinary modes of treatment in tetanus quite inadequate to the activity of the disease. I am, Sir, yours, &c.

T. ENBLING.

31, Brompton-row, July 22, 1842.

HAY FEVER.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me of a successful mode of treatment of the disease termed "Hay fever?" The affection, as I have lately seen it in two patients, is characterised principally by smarting, redness, and watering of the eyes, with frequent sneezing, and a pain across the forehead. These symptoms come on whenever the patients leave the house, and are greatly aggravated on going into the country, but are instantly stopped on arrival at the sea-side. I have employed the chlorides freely, and administered quinine without any benefit. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. K.

London, July 23, 1842.

HEALTH IN SHIPS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—It is the practice of some ship-owners to send their ships for repair to what are deemed cheap ports, at which places there are no docks to place them in for such purpose; therefore, to prevent their floating, apertures are made in the bottoms, in order that the tide may rise and fall within the vessels. Some of these vessels remain in this state for two, three, or four months, alternately wet and dry. Consequently the timbers are thoroughly saturated with water. What I wish to inquire is, whether you consider such vessels to be fit and proper for parties to venture a voyage in, as all the

effects of the drying of the timbers after so long a saturation must ascend through the hold and the cabins? and whether it would not also have an injurious effect on many articles composing of a general cargo? I am, Sir, yours, &c.

INQUIRER.

July 20, 1842.

* * * Undoubtedly, during the whole period of evaporation the atmosphere below must be unfit for the purposes of respiration. There is great want of a sea-police on shore.

ADVICE ON THE CASE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—Having been for several years a sufferer from chronic rheumatism myself, and having by the following means obtained a perfect cure, and for the last four years enjoyed good health, I beg to suggest the same treatment for the benefit of "The Sufferer," LANCET, June 25, viz., a light, nutritious diet, particularly of milk, a total abstinence from all kinds of alcoholic drinks, warm baths, occasional purgatives, and the persevering use of the following medicines. I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

LUCAS MARSHALL BENNETT, M.R.C.S.
Winterton, July 25, 1842.

Rx *Blue pill and rhubarb pill*, of each 3j;
Extract of colchicum and conium, of each 3ss;

Powdered ipecacuanha, 3j. Mix.

Make forty-eight pills. Take two every night.

Rx *Hydriodate of potass*, 3ij;

Camphor mixture, ʒviiij.

Make a mixture; take a large tablespoonful three times a-day.

Rx *Tincture of iodine*, 3iij;

Tincture of belladonna, 3iij;

Tincture of opium, 3ij;

Soap liniment, ʒiij.

Make a liniment, to be used three times a-day.

THE DISGUSTING PAGES OF THE NEWSPAPERS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I was rejoiced to see that your correspondent "Rusticus" has called your attention to the advertising quacks, who have really become such an intolerable nuisance, that one is afraid to put an ordinary newspaper into the hands of a female, lest they should be shocked by the disgusting advertisements which are blazoned forth on its pages.

I have noticed lately a decided increase of the filthy announcements of the "consulting surgeons," which must prove a profitable thing to these quacks, or they could