pirator." I have applied the same kind of an apparatus to other patients upon whom I have performed tracheotomy. In one case of malignant disease of the larynx, the patient's breath through the tube produced an intolerable taste. For the purpose of correcting this I put a small quantity of pulverized charcoal, tied in a small bag, into the glass portion, or what might be called the secretion-trap. This has a partially good effect.

Figure 1 illustrated the application of the apparatus. Figure 2 a section of the secretion-trap of the apparatus.

Figure 2, a section of the secretion-trap of the Tracheotomy Respirator. *b*, short rubber tube connecting with the tracheal tube; *c*, the secretion-trap; *d*, the soft rubber tube, which is about 7 inches long, that passes to the patient's mouth; *e*, a small bag of pulverized charcoal.

DOMESTIC CORRESPONDENCE

PREVENTION OF DIPHThERIA.

Dear Sir:—On page 397 of THE JOURNAL, March 31, is a "formula for the prevention of diphtheria," which is: "an abundance of pure air, good water, wholesome food, clean soil and a clean personality." Have you not accidentally given the wrong formula? Very extensive observation of statistical and other reports on this subject seems to show that diphtheria is about as prevalent among those who employ this formula as among those who do not; while the statistics are conclusive in proving that under another formula the disease is preventable. On page 489 of THE JOURNAL, Oct. 15, 1887, is a diagram, which shows that in 102 outbreaks of diphtheria in which isolation or disinfection or both were neglected, there was an average of a little over sixteen cases and three deaths to the outbreak, that during the same time in 116 outbreaks in which isolation and disinfection were both enforced, there were only about one-fifth as many cases and deaths, which seems to prove that there was a saving of about four-fifths of the cases and deaths by thorough isolation

and disinfection. The correct formula for the prevention of diphtheria would seem to be *isolation and disinfection*. Very respectfully,

HENRY B. BAKER, M.D.

Lansing, Mich., April 2, 1888.

A CORRECTION.

Dear Sir:—By some unintentional error, I find the article on "Methods of Examination of Bacteria for Laboratory Purposes" in Vol. X, No. 13, (March 31, 1888), ascribed to me, whereas the author is George W. Nash, M.D., of Boston.

Very truly,

SAMUEL N. NELSON, M.D.

Boston, April 4, 1888.

STATE MEDICINE.

SANITARY PRECAUTIONS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

To all Local Boards of Health and Borough Councils in Pennsylvania:—This Board has received official information since the first of the year of the existence of small-pox in nine States of the Union. Two outbreaks have occurred in this State. The State Board of Health of California has declared it epidemic in that State.

It is raging with great virulence in the neighboring island of Cuba, where sanitary precautions appear to be extremely lax, and with which we are in constant communication. It has prevailed extensively during all the past winter in portions of Great Britain.

In the neighboring State of Delaware cases exist, and several deaths have occurred as the result of the importation of infected rags. This Board therefore deems it its duty to urge upon all municipal and sanitary authorities the importance, First: Of doing all in their power to promote vaccination in their respective communities; and Secondly: Of keeping all new comers and returned travellers, and especially all immigrants, under observation for fourteen days after their arrival, in order that should symptoms of this disease manifest themselves steps may be taken to circumscribe and isolate the centre of infection with the least possible delay.

By order of the Board,

BENJAMIN LEE, Sec'y.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1888.

BOOK REVIEWS.

DISEASES OF THE HEART AND CIRCULATION IN INFANCY AND ADOLESCENCE. By JOHN M. KEATING, M.D., etc., and WILLIAM A. EDWARDS, M.D., etc. Illustrated with Photographs and Wood Engravings 8vo, pp. 215. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co. 1888. Chicago: W. T. Keener.

This work appeared in instalments in the *Archives of Pediatrics*, prior to its issue in book form. The authors have made an excellent systematic work