ulus, abundant liquid food, and such agents as strophanthus. In all cases of fever following parturition suitable nourishment and alcohol were indispensable. The most careful attention to the hygienic surroundings of the patient was, of course, called for. In the severest cases the ice-coil was undoubtedly useful, and Runge had recently reported very favorable results from the employment of tepid water in lymphatic septicæmia. These results were the more remarkable from the fact that this was the most fatal variety of puerperal fever, and the method was certainly worth trying.

P. B. P.

The Acid Treatment of Yellow Fever and other Fevers, and Scorbutic Conditions Generally.

Dear Sir:—In view of the ravages of yellow fever in the South and elsewhere, it is the bounden duty of physicians to resort to all promising means of relief to prevent and stay its destructive course, and for this purpose I desire to invite attention again to the great value of the acids and acidulous substances in the hygienic and medicinal treatment of all such diseases, and particularly to the superior sanative properties of nitro-hydrochloric acid as a germicide, antiseptic, febrifuge, alterative, hæmostatic, tonic, etc., in contagious, infectious and pernicious fevers, as well as analogous diseases, both internally and externally, as a prophylactic and curative. I can truly testify to the great practical utility of nitro-hydrochloric acid in inflamed and festering throat, diphtheria, scarlet, variolous, puerperal, typhus, ship, malarial, bilious, and other fevers, with their allied toxic, putrid and scorbutic conditions, constitutional and local, but have had no practical experience with it in yellow fever, though I believe it will prove equally efficient therein as in the former. For a general summary of its medical properties and applications I refer to my previous article thereon, in *THE JOURNAL*, vol. x, p. 65.

Both as a preventive and remedial agent nitromuriatic acid is very efficacious in all such diseases, and may be taken freely in doses of from two to four drops of the strong acid in water or lemonade, through a glass, straw, or other non-corrosive tube, except in edentulous children and adults, by draught or sipping a little at a time, as a refreshing, purifying beverage and healing medicine, according to necessity. It is simple, safe, properly diluted, prompt, active, cheap, and easily procurable almost everywhere. It will not interfere with the usual remedies except in the case of calomel, which it converts into corrosive sublimate, and would thus prove dangerous in undue quantities, but in small doses beneficial, as it is compatible with hydrarg. bichloride, which might be substituted for the calomel, it being also

a powerful germicide, alterative and resolvent, and the two together would be doubly remedial.

Other acids, mineral, vegetal and animal, as muriatic, nitric, sulphuric, bromohydric, phosphoric, salicylic, etc., and lemonade, vinegar, sour buttermilk, with acid fluids, fruit, and food generally, sweetened to taste, are also applicable according to special indications. I firmly believe that the acid regimen and medication will greatly mitigate if not absolutely avert and resolve the scourge of yellow fever, with all other contagious, infectious, and pernicious fevers, and scorbutic conditions, hence strongly urge their use therein, both for preventive and curative purposes.

GEO. J. ZIEGLER, M.D.

Philadelphia, Sept. 30, 1888.

Abortion Laws.

Dear Sir:—In your most able and kindly editorial on "The Ethics of Marriage," in *THE JOURNAL* for September 1, there has, in some way which I cannot understand, crept in a mistake as to the abortion laws referred to in the tabular view in the appendix. I notice that a correspondent in your issue of September 22 naturally feels aggrieved at the seeming aspersion on his State.

This tabular view shows that thirty-eight States and Territories punish the attempt to perform abortion, and no less than eighteen punish advertisements looking to that end. The book has already—since May—passed into a second edition, and at first I thought the tables might have become confused in this, but, referring to a copy lately received from the publishers, I find them all right.

Will you kindly make correction in some future issue of *THE JOURNAL*, and greatly oblige Yours truly,

H. STERLING POMEROY, M.D.

341 Boylston St., Boston, October 12.

BOOK REVIEWS.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, at the Thirty-ninth Annual Session, held at Philadelphia, June, 1888. Published by the Society. 8vo, pp. 355.

The first literary contribution to this volume is the Presidential Address of Dr. Richard J. Levis, on "Traditional Errors of Surgery." Among the traditional errors pointed out are those pertaining to the differentiations of surgical practice called specialism. "The greatest advances in surgical science and art, at the present time, are made through special attention to certain lines of study and practice. This differentiation by specialism is justified by the advance of these lines beyond the possibility of any indi-