

braggart spirit occasionally and offensively peeping out, which is truly Belgian, and reminds us not a little of that immortal monument of Quixotism, "aux braves Belges," on the field of Waterloo.

QUARTAN AGUE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In a late number of your valuable Journal I perceive that a correspondent, after having tried liquor arsenicalis and emetics in a case of quartan ague, as well as quinine, invites the attention and suggestion of your readers to the case. Not being acquainted with the particulars of the case, it would be improper to recommend any particular medicine or treatment, unless it should be of the homœopathic kind, as we know those to be harmless; allow me, however, to call the attention of your correspondent, and the profession in general, to the use of *Hydro-ferrocyanate de quinine*, the use of which remedy originated, I believe, in Italy. Dr. G. Cerioli (Archives Générales de Méd., December, 1832) used it there in several instances with great success, particularly where, at one and the same time, a remedy was wanted to be not only a febrifuge, but also an antiphlogistic,—where the fever was connected with an inflammation in some organ or another. He mentions twenty-four cases, in all of which sulphate of quinine had been administered without benefit; but in all of which he succeeded in effecting a perfect cure by giving from two to eight grains of the above-mentioned remedy, throughout the day, in six pills, with roob. sambucci; nor did he ever observe any of those exacerbations which generally occur after the use of sulph. quinine. Leaving to the discretion of your readers the propriety of a trial of this remedy, I remain, Sir, yours truly,

C. P. P. F. REIERSEN, M.D.

Broome-street, New York,
June, 1843.

TREATMENT OF CROUP.

To the Editor.—Sir: Dr. Copland, in his (still unfinished) dictionary, article *Croup*, incidentally mentions, under the head of "Treatment of Complicated and Consecutive Croup," that the vapour of camphor, warm vinegar, &c.,* may be resorted to. It may not, perhaps, be generally known that the inhalation of the vapour of hot vinegar may be had recourse to in the earliest stages of common inflammatory croup, with perfect safety, and the greatest advantage to the patient. I do not affirm that it will cure the disease, but I know of no remedy for this formidable malady that so promptly relieves

the harsh ringing cough that is peculiar to it, as the vapour of hot vinegar. In the absence of an inhaler a teapot will serve as a convenient substitute, and it has the recommendation of being always at hand. The task of explaining the *modus operandi* of the remedy I leave to others; I have often witnessed and can vouch for its efficacy. If administered on the Hahnemannian principle, "*similia similibus*, &c.," I would not recommend its use in Hahnemannian doses. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

H. C. ROODS.

Great Russell-street, July, 1843.

MEDICAL CLASSES AT EDINBURGH.

To the Editor.—Sir: Permit me, through the medium of your pages, to correct a mistake which appeared in *THE LANCET* of the 8th inst. As an answer to a question, Why so many students go to other universities in preference to that of Edinburgh, it is there stated that the reason is "because the classes of Drs. Hope and Monro are imperative on students graduating, for it was the *cheapness of college classes*, the small expense of living in Edinburgh, and the fame of the professors, all combined, that rendered the university so desirable a place for many of the pupils."

I do not intend to deny the statement of your correspondent respecting the professors of chemistry and anatomy, nor that of the acknowledged fame of many of their colleagues; but, with regard to the *cheapness of college classes*, there appears to be some misunderstanding. I believe it will be found that perpetual tickets to the lectures required by any of the public boards, may be obtained in London at the most respectable schools, viz., at University and King's Colleges, or at the Borough hospitals, on terms quite as low as in Edinburgh University. In the latter place the hospital practice is not quite so expensive, but then it must be remembered that clinical lectures are not included in the hospital fee, as in London. Therefore, taking all together (of course excepting lodging), the education in the latter place is not more expensive than in the former.

I would take this opportunity of calling the attention of those gentlemen who are connected with the College of Surgeons and Apothecaries' Hall, as members of the council or examiners, to the very shameful practice of several London grinders. It is a notorious fact that these men frequently give certificates of attendance on certain lectures which an applicant requires to fill up his schedule, dated to suit convenience. Surely there is much need of reform in medical education. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.

Edinburgh, July 18, 1843.

* To which might be added tar, long since proposed by Mr. Wansbrough.—ED. L.