

upon the perineum, has been effected; (c) a gentle thrusting of head in instrument towards the uterine cavity to secure a sense of freedom before rotation is attempted; (d) the simple mechanical revolution of instrument with head as one turns a key to open a door; and (e) traction in the routine way, without any other preparation, once the occipito-anterior position has been attained.

Most authorities who commend the method consider that, when rotation has been managed, the forceps should be withdrawn and reapplied in the orthodox position (in conformity with the vaginal curve) but in practice neither embarrassment nor difficulty attends delivery without this precautionary manoeuvre. Contrary to expectation, the instrument does not slip or prove awkward. And, always, the minimum of manipulation consistent with efficiency should be our ideal.

An objection raised by Dr. Robert Jardine before the Glasgow Obstetrical Society in March last, that "rotation of the head by forceps . . . twisted the head on the neck while the shoulders are not turned," is theoretical only. The method offers no practical difficulties; but constitutes, in my experience, the readiest, safest, speediest solution of what is nowadays a common problem in obstetrics.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Belfast, Oct. 31st, 1921.

ROBERT WATSON.

#### BRITISH SPA FEDERATION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—At the biennial meeting of this Federation, held recently, it was decided that for the future the British spas in the Federation—i.e., Bath, Buxton, Cheltenham, Droitwich, Harrogate, Leamington, Llandrindod Wells, and Woodhall—will require their patients to have medical prescriptions of not more than 12 months old for all treatments except a few generally recognised to be obtainable at any "hydro" or treatment establishment.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

F. J. C. BROOME,  
Hon. Secretary.

Nov. 2nd, 1921.

\* \* The dangers of self-drugging are largely removed by any regulations which prevent the use of old prescriptions; these are often used by others than those for whom they were intended originally.—  
ED. L.

PEOPLE'S LEAGUE OF HEALTH.—Under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen, a ball will take place at Devonshire House (lent by the owners, Messrs. Holland and Hannen and Cubitts) on Friday, Nov. 25th, in aid of the League. At the first issue ball tickets are priced at £2 2s.; they may be obtained, and boxes booked, at the box offices, from the members of the Ball and Fête Committee, and from G. Sherwood Foster, 7, Hanover-square, W. 1.

MEMORIAL TO LIEUT.-COL. E. F. HARRISON.—On Nov. 2nd, the Secretary of State for War unveiled the memorial erected in the Examination Hall of the Pharmaceutical Society, 17, Bloomsbury-square, in honour of the late Lieut.-Colonel E. F. Harrison, Controller of Chemical Warfare, and one of the most distinguished graduates of the Society's school. Colonel Harrison, it may be recalled, joined the army as a private in 1915, when he was 47 years of age. He was transferred as a corporal to the Special Anti-Gas Branch of the Royal Engineers after the first German gas offensive, and at once became identified as the leading spirit in the department organised to fight the menace of poison-gas warfare. He was closely associated with the evolution of the small box respirator, the most perfect of all anti-gas appliances, 20 million of which were manufactured before the end of the war. As a scientific pharmacist, Harrison had made a great reputation for himself before the war, and on his death, in November, 1918, from pneumonia probably aggravated by the effects of the gases to which he was exposed during his researches, his confrères organised a fund to perpetuate his memory. The memorial consists of an alabaster tablet, inlaid with mosaic, in which is set a circular bronze relief portrait. A biographical notice of Colonel Harrison by Prof. E. H. Starling appeared in THE LANCET, 1918, ii., 681.

## Obituary.

JOHN WICKHAM LEGG, F.R.C.P. LOND.,  
M.D. LOND., F.S.A.

Dr. J. Wickham Legg died at his home in Oxford on Oct. 28th at the age of 78. Although his chief work lay outside medicine he was at one time a notable figure in London medical circles. He qualified M.R.C.S. Eng. in 1866, becoming M.D. Lond. in 1868, M.R.C.P. Lond. in 1869, and F.R.C.P. Lond. in 1876. Soon after qualification Dr. Legg was chosen by Queen Victoria to act as tutor and medical attendant to her delicate son, Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, and he continued to act in the latter capacity throughout the life of the prince. Dr. Legg became assistant physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital in 1878; he remained on the staff for only nine years, retiring owing to ill-health in 1887. He was specially interested in the cardio-vascular system, published a treatise on Hæmophilia, and gave the Bradshaw lecture in 1883 on Cardiac Aneurysms. For the last 30 years of his life Dr. Legg devoted himself to archaeological research in general and especially to the study of ancient documents relating to the churches, and was generally accepted as a liturgical expert. Dr. Legg's wife predeceased him; his only son is fellow and tutor of New College, Oxford.

Dr. Arthur Maude writes:—

I knew Wickham Legg well, and was his clinical assistant in the skin department at St. Bartholomew's. It was a pleasure which I can well recall to dine with him at his charming little house in Green-street. He was an excellent host, appreciated his own good fare, and was an interesting and stimulating talker and raconteur. Dr. Legg was appointed casualty physician in January, 1870, on the first institution of that office. He succeeded Dr. Norman Moore as demonstrator of morbid anatomy and was made lecturer on pathology in 1879. Legg was a very handsome man, always well dressed; he had undemocratic prejudices, and occasionally caused amusement among the students by airing them, but those who knew Legg knew their signification. He was a poor lecturer and seemed incapable of arranging a consecutive discourse, but he was a good clinical teacher and could illuminate his ideas with valuable medical anecdotes culled from history and from bygone medical writers. He was, moreover, a careful observer and a humble student when dealing with a subject new to him. Legg succeeded Mr. Morant Baker as dermatologist at Bart.'s, a difficult position since Baker was one of the best skin specialists in London at that time and Legg knew little about the subject when he got his appointment—a very usual position in all medical schools at that date. But he soon learned his subject. I was his first clinical assistant and we worked most agreeably together for six months in 1882, in a large and interesting clinique. In 1880 I saw a great deal of him in Dr. Gee's wards where I was then clerking, when he became the assistant physician corresponding to Dr. Gee. I owe much to his careful and learned instruction, especially in diseases of the liver and pancreas, a branch of pathology in which he took an interest secondary only to his interest in cardiology. He was even then a fine historian and had seen a good deal of British diplomacy abroad, being especially intimate with Sir Augustus Paget, when he was Minister at the Quirinal. I remember that in his library at Green-street he would take down book after book of eighteenth century memoirs to illustrate his wide knowledge of the intrigues of the bygone century.

Though Wickham Legg leaves his mark as historian and archaeologist, he was for many years a learned and wise physician.

ANDREW ALEXANDER BROCKATT,  
M.D. BRUX., M.R.C.S.

Dr. Brockatt, of Great Malvern, who died in London on Oct. 24th, was in his fifty-eighth year. He entered St. Thomas's Hospital as a student in 1881, qualified in 1885, and then held house appointments there and at the Brompton Hospital for Consumption. Before settling down to practice he made several voyages as ship's doctor to India and China, and acted for a time as medical registrar at his own hospital. In 1889 he joined the late Dr. Thelwall Pike in practice