

eases) should be studied first in joint meeting. To try to consider them from the sanitary side alone is a mistake. Sanitarians should be in the medical section largely and should be working from that point of view, so far as the American Medical Association is concerned in dealing with these diseases. It would seem to me that a committee might be formed from these two sections to look into this matter of a joint meeting during one day at least of this session of the Association each year. If it appears that the Section on Medicine is too heavily loaded already, then I would certainly feel that there should be a subsection under medicine to have charge of these matters.

I am rather inclined to think that the American Medical Association would get the greatest amount of good out of the Section on Hygiene and Sanitary Science if it were a subsection of medicine.

Very truly,
H. M. BRACKEN.

Osteopathy and Legislation.

NEW YORK, April 10, 1903.

To the Editor:—My recent letter to THE JOURNAL on this subject has brought a number of letters from physicians who have been interested in the matter, and I have received voluminous literature in the way of arguments. Right here lies the weak point in our opposition. Arguments on both sides have been so extensive that they have sometimes become top heavy and have fallen by their own weight, toppling occasionally in the wrong direction. A very able lawyer who presented the interests of the osteopaths before one legislative committee told me afterward that he had no fear of the physicians or of their lawyers, but when he saw the osteopaths slip up on making a demonstration when opportunity was given them to move a few bones, he at once lost faith in his clients and would have nothing more to do with them. He told me that he had taken up their cause in perfectly good faith, and was convinced that he was to be a public benefactor.

If members of a legislative committee object to having specimens from human cadavers placed on the table before them the fresh rack of a sheep will always suffice. The fraudulent nature of the claims of the osteopaths will be so apparent to any laymen when the osteopaths are asked to "show the gentlemen" how they move bones, that the elaborate and convincing arguments on both sides can be dispensed with.

58 West 56th Street.

ROBERT T. MORRIS.

Catgut Preparation.

BANGOR, ME., April 4, 1903.

To the Editor:—As soon as Claudius' method of preparing catgut appeared I carefully prepared some imported gut, Nos. 0, 1 and 2. On trial the gut was brittle and absolutely worthless. The solution is also offensive and black. The same lot of gut was prepared by Hofmeister's method, and is as good as gut can be. The solution is clear and sparkling, and the gut can be boiled without injury. It lasts too long in the tissues, which is a good fault and can be remedied by using the smaller sizes

WALTER L. HUNT, M.D.,
Visiting surgeon E. M. G. Hospital.

Light on Lupus.

CINCINNATI, April 13, 1903.

To the Editor:—In your issue of April 11 there appeared an article on "Light in the Treatment of Lupus and Other Chronic Skin Affections," to which I wish to offer the following criticism, in order to correct some possible mistaken impressions, and any resulting deleterious influences: The four cases of lupus, reported cured by this method, bear no resemblance to lupus, either from the appearance of the pictures or from the clinical history. The process not only began too late in life, in adults from 21 to 52 years of age, but also pursued an entirely too rapid course, two weeks to one year in each individual case.

M. L. HEIDINGSFELD.

Queries and Minor Notes.

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS will not be noticed. Queries for this column must be accompanied by the writer's name and address, but the request of the writer not to publish his name will be faithfully observed.

FETAL MORPHIN ADDICTION.

COLORADO, April 10, 1903.

To the Editor:—Concerning a very peculiar case in my regular work I wish a little information: April 3 I delivered a multipara of a nine pound boy. The mother had been addicted to the use of morphin for the past three years. The child appeared to be healthy and perfect in every respect with excretions normal. On the second day it began to cry, and cried continuously for two days and nights despite the free use of paregoric. At the end of that time the baby had become so weak that I saw no hope for it, but gave 1/120 gr. of morphin and got an immediate quieting effect. The baby is now eight days old and by the use of 1/120 gr. of morphin every other day it has begun to gain weight and strength, but if one dose of morphin is omitted it is immediately attacked with a crying spell and will not stop until it gets its morphin.

Now I would like to know if it is possible for a fetus to contract the morphin habit, and if there is any other similar case on record.

O. D.

ANS.—The case is not an extraordinarily unusual one, as the infant is often affected by the habits of the mother. The child should not be allowed to grow up a morphin habitué, and we advise discontinuing the opiate, carefully studying the symptoms and directing treatment thereto.

LANGENBECK'S TRIANGLE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 10, 1903.

To the Editor:—Please inform me where and what is "Langenbeck's triangle."

R. S. PORTER, M.D.

ANS.—It is an isosceles triangle, of which the apex corresponds to the anterior superior iliac spine, the base to the anatomic neck of the femur and the external side to the external face of the great trochanter. Penetrating wounds within this triangle may be intra-articular.

State Boards of Registration.

Amended Nebraska Law.—The medical practice law of Nebraska has been amended by the legislature at its late session so as to make an examination, successfully passed, an essential before obtaining a license. The amended sections of the law now read:

Section 19.—Every holder of a diploma from a recognized medical college within the state of Nebraska, making application for an examination and a certificate under the provisions of this act, shall pay to the board of secretaries prior to his examination the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00). All other persons making such application shall pay to said board the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). All such fees shall be equally divided among the four secretaries of the board as full compensation for their services and expenses. For the taking of any testimony each of the secretaries shall be entitled to charge and receive such fees as are provided for notaries public for similar services. No part of such fees shall be paid out of the state treasury.

Section 7. It shall be unlawful for any person to practice medicine, surgery or obstetrics or any of the branches thereof, in this state, without first having applied for and obtained from the state board of health a license so to do. Application therefor shall be in writing, and shall be accompanied by the examination fees herein-after specified and with proof that the applicant is of good moral character. Applications from candidates who desire to practice medicine and surgery in any or all their branches shall be accompanied by proof that the applicant is a graduate of a medical school or college in good standing, as defined in Section eight (8) of this Article. When the application aforesaid has been inspected by the board and found to comply with the foregoing provisions, the board shall notify the applicant to appear before it for examination at the time and place mentioned in such notice. Examinations may be made wholly or in part in writing by the board and shall be of a character sufficiently strict to test the qualifications of the candidate as a practitioner. The examination of those who desire to practice medicine and surgery in any or all their branches shall embrace those subjects and topics, a knowledge of which is commonly and generally required of candidates for the degree of doctor of medicine, by reputable medical colleges in the United States. All examinations provided for in this act shall be conducted under rules and regulations prescribed by the board, which shall provide for a fair and wholly impartial method of examination. It is also provided that examinations on practice of medicine and therapeutics shall be conducted by the member or members of the board of secretaries who are of the same school of medicine as the applicant. And it is further provided, that the said state board of health may, at their discretion, admit, without examination, legally qualified medical practitioners, who hold certificates to practice medicine in any state with equal requirement to those of the state of Nebraska.

Section 10. If upon investigation of the proofs submitted to the board, and after the examination, as hereinbefore provided, the applicant shall be found entitled to practice, there shall be issued to said applicant the certificate of said board under its seal and