

It would be interesting to know the results of the examination of the urine (as suggested by Crombie) in all cases of cholera, and whether the triple test discloses any variation in the condition of the urine in acute Ptomaine poisoning.

Yours truly,
VINCENT RICHARDS.

A NOTE ON THE USEFULNESS OF "NAOSHADAR"
OR SAL AMMONIAC.

TO THE EDITOR, "INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE."

SIR,—From a perusal of cases that one reads in medical papers and from facts known to me, I think some of the common and cheap medicines are not employed so often as they ought to be, merely because they are "old fashioned." There is too much of worship of new medicines in this age.

Ammonium Chloride (= 'Naoshádar') is one of the old and cheap medicines which are not used sufficiently enough in the Punjab Dispensaries.

It is needless for me to remind your readers that this drug is known and described in works on Therapeutics to have been used with success in inflammatory swellings of mammary and lymphatic glands, &c.; liver diseases, hepatitis, congestion, waxy enlargement, jaundice, hepatalgia, &c.; fibrous tumours of the uterus; bruises and sprains; enlarged prostate; and above all in certain forms of respiratory affections and neuralgias. Yet I beg to draw attention of your readers to the following facts:

(1.) That Sal Ammoniac is of a very great service in all those cases of acute or chronic catarrh (nasal or bronchial) asthma, &c., in which the secretions are viscid, and in which it is sought to facilitate expectoration.

(2.) That I have lately seen Sal Ammoniac used as a snuff by Assistant-Surgeon Báwá Jiwan Sing at the Maghiana Dispensary for relief of supraorbital neuralgia, in relieving which it acts like a charm. I have myself used it in a large number of such cases in the interior of the district while in camp. Pain was immediately relieved in each case. One or two pinches of the medicine finely powdered were well drawn into the nostril of the painful side, and to prevent relapse some powders of the snuff and some doses of Sal Ammoniac mixture (gr. 10 to oz.) were supplied to the patients.

(3.) That in cases of patients who are troubled with the presence of thick viscid mucus in the throat and pharynx, to expel which from this place they are obliged to hawk frequently, and especially in the morning on getting up from bed, and who during these efforts frequently turn out the contents of their stomach, ammonium chloride gives a great relief. I have seen and treated with success many such cases.

(4.) That one of such patients suffered from diuresis which at a time ran into diabetes. I thought the disease might be due to the morbid viscid secretion in the pharynx and stomach, which interfered with proper digestion of food, and perhaps irritated the gastric filaments of the pneumogastric nerve, and thus affecting hepatic circulation, produced sugar in the urine. Sal Ammoniac was prescribed, and after a week's use of the medicine, the urine began to be formed and passed in normal quantities.

(5.) That the taste of Sal Ammoniac can be effectually disguised by dissolving it in thin "Ohháchh" or in milk. Liguorice does not disguise the taste so well.

Your most obedient servant,

CHETAN SHAH NAUG.

AN OBSCURE SKIN DISEASE.

TO THE EDITOR, "INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE."

SIR,—Would you be good enough to give this a space in your very valuable Journal. For the past five or six years I have been suffering from a peculiar skin disease obscure in form, which no medical man I have consulted has been able to tell me what it is or how to cure it. I therefore venture to write through your column in the hope that some kind medical man will tell me what to do for it, or to kindly give me the name of the disease. The disease is confined to my feet, between the toes, and occasionally on the soles. It first comes on with an itching, which on examining are noticed to be white small blisters, exuding occasionally a thick yellowish fluid. When the blistered skin is removed, a deep hollow cavern with an angry base, coppery colour, is observed. If left alone, heals up without treatment in

eight or ten days. They come out about once a month, of tetter in the rains and cold weather than in the hot month.

Lately I have been feeling quite alarmed and do not know what to do for my complaint.

Yours truly,

A. C. ROY.

Appointments, Leave, &c.

APPOINTMENTS.

The Commander-in-Chief in India is pleased to make the following appointments:—

HAMILTON, Surgeon H., M.D., to the officiating medical charge of the 5th Bengal Cavalry, *vice* Surgeon-Major G. S. A. Ranking, M.D., appointed to officiate as Principal Medical Store-keeper, Calcutta.

CLARK, Surgeon W. R., to the officiating medical charge of the 6th Bengal Cavalry, *vice* Surgeon Major P. F. O'Connor, M.D., granted furlough.

MURRAY, Surgeon J., to the officiating medical charge of the 15th Bengal Cavalry, *vice* Surgeon, D. F. Barry, M.D., granted leave.

DAWSON, Surgeon A. W., M.D., to the officiating medical charge of the 18th Bengal Lancers, *vice* Surgeon-Major G. Griffith, transferred to civil employ.

YOUNAN, Surgeon A. C., M.B., to the officiating medical charge of the 4th Bengal Infantry, *vice* Surgeon T. Grainger, M.D., ordered on field service.

PRICE, Surgeon W. L., M.B., to the medical charge of the 23rd Pioneers, *vice* Surgeon H. Hamilton, resigned on appointment to the 5th Bengal Cavalry.

BRADY, Surgeon G. F. W., to the officiating medical charge of the Regiment, pending the return of Surgeon W. L. Price from Upper Burma.

VOST, Surgeon W., to the officiating medical charge of the 25th Punjab Infantry, *vice* Surgeon G. H. Peavor, ordered on field service.

KER, Surgeon M. A., to the officiating medical charge of the 34th Pioneers, *vice* Surgeon-Major C. W. S. Deakin, appointed to officiate as Medical Store-keeper, Meen Meer.

ROBINSON, Surgeon W. H. B., to the officiating medical charge of the 43rd Goorkha Light Infantry, *vice* Surgeon-Major K. M. Downie, M.D., who rejoins his permanent appointment in the 29th Punjab Infantry.

IRVINE, Surgeon G. B., to the officiating medical charge of the 1st Battalion 2nd Goorkhas, *vice* Surgeon-Major D. P. Macdonald, granted leave out of India.

DEAKIN, Surgeon-Major C. W. S., Indian Medical Service, Bengal Establishment, to be Medical Store-keeper, *sub protem*, *vice* Surgeon-Major G. A. Dundas, deceased.

RANKING, Surgeon-Major G. S. A., M.D., Indian Medical Service, Bengal, to officiate as Principal Medical Store-keeper, Calcutta, *vice* Surgeon-Major G. Hutcheson, appointed to officiate as Statistical Officer to the Government of India in the Sanitary and Medical Department.

DIMMOCK, Surgeon H. P., is appointed to act as Professor of Pathology, Grant Medical College.

PERRY, Surgeon F. F., Professor of Surgery in the Lahore Medical College, to officiate as Ophthalmic Surgeon and Professor of Ophthalmic Surgery in the Medical College, Calcutta.

JAMESON, the services of Surgeon G., M.B., are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of Bengal.

MATHEW, Surgeon-Major R. G., Civil Surgeon of Mozufferpore, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Howrah.

PURKAIT, Assistant Surgeon Purna Chandler, attached to the Mymensingh Charitable Dispensary, held medical charge of the civil station of Mymensingh, in addition to his own duties from the afternoon of 1st to the afternoon of 8th August 1887.

WILSON, Surgeon-Major J., is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Bankoora, with effect from the 30th November.

BASU, Surgeon D., Civil Surgeon, Furreedpore, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Mymensingh.

BRADLEY, the services of Assistant Apothecary F., Presidency General Hospital, are replaced at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department.

JAMESON, Surgeon G., is appointed to act as Resident Surgeon, Eden Hospital, Calcutta.

GUPTA, Surgeon-Major Kali Pada, M.B., is appointed to officiate as Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, in addition to his own duties, during the absence of Brigade-Surgeon R. Lidderdale.

BAGCHI, Assistant-Surgeon Rama Prasad, House Physician, First Physician's Ward, Medical College Hospital, whose term of office expired on the 20th February 1888, will continue in the post until further orders.

DOBIE, Surgeon-Major S. L., to be Medical Officer, Octacamund.

THOMPSON, Surgeon C. M., M.B., Secretary, Surgeon-General with Government of Madras, to act as Fort Surgeon.

BRICH, Surgeon-Major L., District Surgeon, Coconada, to act as Civil Surgeon, Rajahmundry.

HADDEN, Assistant-Surgeon J., to act as District Surgeon, Coconada.