and at the close of the month there were only nine cases under treatment in the isolation hospital.

MARYLAND: Another case of smallpox is reported near Williamsport in the western part of the state. Several cases have previously existed in the suburbs of that town, which are still under quarantine and special treatment.

PENNSYLVANIA: The town of Parryville, Carbon County, is suffering from an epidemic of smallpox; nearly one-tenth of the population of 500 is affected by the disease. A strict quarantine has been established.

CANADA: There are now but four cases in the Montreal Hospital, and the disease will be wiped out in a very short time.

ENGLAND: The Metropolitan Hospitals, London, now contain only 305 cases of smallpox against numbers decreasing from 1515 to 369 on the 14 preceding Saturdays; 44 new cases were admitted in the last week against 51, 48, 23 in the three preceding weeks. During the second quarter of the year the number of fatal cases amounted to 507, against 35, 193 and 734 in the three preceding quarters, and an average of 11 in the second quarters of the ten preceding years. During the quarter 3215 cases were admitted to hospital against 286, 1491 and 4873 in the three preceding quarters.——The medical officer of health for Swansea has reported to the sanitary committee that smallpox, which has been prevalent at that port for some months, has assumed serious proportions, and is now in epidemic form.

BARBADOES: Smallpox has again made its appearance in this island, there being now 15 cases strictly isolated at the quarantine station, located on Pelican Island, separate from the mainland. The prevailing opinion among the physicians is that the disease is under control and will not become epidemic. No deaths have been reported by the Board of Health.

CANADA.

Montreal Death Roll.—The mortality statistics for the past week in Montreal show a total of 123 deaths. The principal causes of death were: Phthisis and other chest diseases, 26; infantile debility, 49; croup, 1; typhoid fever, 2; measles, 2.

Appointed Autopsist for Montreal District.—Dr. C. A. Dugas, who for some years was assistant to the late Dr. Wyatt Johnston, the autopsist for the district of Montreal, has been appointed by the Attorney General of the province of Quebec to succeed Dr. Johnston. He will have as his coadjutor Dr. D. D. MacTaggert.

Heavy Infant Mortality in Toronto During August.—The returns from the Toronto cemeteries during the month of August show a total of 246 interments, or 15 more than for the month of July. The total deaths from contagious diseases were three, all diphtheria. There were 111 children under five years of age interred, and 11 adults over 82 years, one over 90 and one 92 years of age.

Enforcing Montreal's Vaccination By-Law.—A case of some importance has been decided by Recorder Porier in regard to the right of the city of Montreal to enforce the by-law calling upon the employers of labor to compel employes to be vaccinated. The action was taken by the medical health officer to compel the vaccination of an employe of the Dominion Cotton Company. The recorder imposed a fine of $5 on the company.

FOREIGN.

Merida Hospital.—The contract for the construction of the Merida, Yucatan, hospital, for the sum of $900,000, has been given to Mexican contractors.

Esmarch's Birthplace.—The house in which Esmarch was born at Tönning, in Schleswig-Holstein, has been marked with a tablet by the local authorities.

Forged Diplomas at Barcelona.—The faculty at Barcelona have discovered that several persons are in possession of forged diplomas conferring degrees in medicine or law. All the diplomas issued in the last twenty-five years are now being revised and verified.

Recrudescence of Plague in Sydney.—On July 11 a rat infected with plague was discovered in Sydney, and a week later another rat dead from plague was found. It is reported that rats are dying in the district, and thorough inspection and cleansing of the affected locality have been made.

Prophylaxis Against Mosquitoes in France.—The French Conseil d'Hygiène recommends the usual measures against allowing stagnant water to accumulate, etc., and adds that fish should be kept in all public fountains, etc., and that a drop of tincture of iodin or of a 1 per cent. solution of guaiacol should be applied to every mosquito bite.

Statistics from the German Universities.—The number of medical students in Germany was 8141 in 1897, while at present it is only 6749, a decline of nearly 17 per cent. in the last five years. Berlin and Munich have about the same number of medical students as in previous years, 1018 and 1046 respectively, and the attendance at Rostock, Kiel and Heidelberg has increased. The decline is most apparent at Würzburg, Leipsic, Greifswald and Breslau.

The Prizes Offered by the Brazilian Academy of Medicine.—The Academy offers a gold medal and diploma for the best and second best works received during the academic year on the following subjects: Influence of malaria as a determining factor in aortic heart affections; fevers at Rio de Janeiro; clinical study of intestinal sutures; treatment of umbilical hernia; carcinoma of uterus; puerperal eclampsia; rôle of vegetable oxidases in therapeutics, and study of the mineral waters of Brazil, besides a few topics of merely local interest.

Golden Jubilees of German Physicians.—Our German exchanges this week bring a list of eight physicians whose friends have recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their entrance upon their professional career. Among them is Dr. C. Schweigger of Berlin, who was decorated with the order of the Red Eagle on the occasion. L. W. Liersch of Kottbus was another. His name is well known by his works on ophthalmology and the history of medicine. Aufrecht of Frankfort a. O. closes the list. Several are "privy sanitary councillors" and one retired from active life two years ago.

Correspondence.

Gastroptosia not Gastroptosis.

NEW YORK, Aug. 19, 1902.

To the Editor:—In my letter which appeared in your issue for August 16 I noticed an error which may be either the printer's or my own slip of pen in manuscript. It reads "*epi* means on, upon or touching," while I wish to say "*peri* means on, upon or touching."

Being prepared to meet opposition—since it is generally believed that "*peri*" means around only—I ask you to insert this correction.

I know some of the Greek dictionaries are not explicit enough in regard to this word, and therefore allow me to say that not only in Greek spoken at present, but also in classical writers peri may distinctly mean "*upon*." Περὶ λίθον τεσεῖν (Aristophanes, Acharnians v. 1180). Περὶ νῆσον ἁλώμενοι (Odyssey 4, 368).

A. ROSE.

[Dr. Rose's original letter shows that he was responsible for the error.—ED.]

The Relief of Itching in Ivy Poisoning.

ATTLEBORO FALLS, MASS., Aug. 28, 1902.

To the Editor:—Another remedy for the condition mentioned on page 441 of THE JOURNAL of August 23, itching of ivy poisoning, is to apply cloths rung out in a solution of grindelia robusta or eucalyptol and hot water, 1 to 10.

Respectfully, WILLIS L. HALE.

Book Notices.

AMERICAN EDITION OF NOTHNAGEL'S ENCYCLOPEDIA. Diphtheria.—By Wm. P. Northrup, M.D., of New York. Measles, Scarlet Fever, and German Measles.—By Professor Dr. Th. von Jurgensen, Professor of Medicine in the University of Tubingen. Edited, with Additions, by William P. Northrup, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics in the University and Bellevue Medical College, New York. Handsome Octavo, 672 Pages. Illustrated, Including 24 Full-page Plates, 3 of Them in Colors. Cloth, $5.00 net; Half Morocco, $6.00 net. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders & Co. 1902.

This latest volume in the Nothnagel's series is devoted to the most common of the diseases met by the general practitioner, namely, diphtheria, measles, scarlet fever and German measles. The monograph on diphtheria, consisting of nearly 200 pages, is not from the German edition, but is written especially for this volume by Dr. W. P. Northrup, of New York. The author is to be congratulated on the exhaustive and practical manner in which he presents the subject. The remarkably favorable results from the use of antitoxin is shown by statistics which

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