A NEW AURAL SPECULUM.

By R. LAKE, F.R.C.S., Pathologist to the Throat Hospital, Golden Square, London.

THE speculum consists of a silvered glass lining, covered (as in Fergusson's vaginal speculum) with hard rubber. The advantages claimed are:—

Greater reflective power.

Ability to use caustics through a bright speculum without injury to the surface.

With a good direct light to be able to do without a reflector.

They are to be had in three sizes, and are of the same shape as Politzer's, and have been made for me by Messrs. WALTERS & CO., 29, Moorgate Street, City.

DIPHTHERIA, &c.

Wingrave (London).—*Anæsthesia for Operations on the Throat and Nose.* "Brit. Med. Journ.," Sept. 23, 1893.

IN this communication Mr. Wingrave strongly recommends the use of gas as an anæsthetic, having in 90 per cent. of 1100 cases used this alone, administered through a modified Clover's gas and ether inhaler. Wingrave's mouth prop is securely placed before applying the face-piece, the patient assuming a sitting posture in a fixed chair. An expert can, it is stated, remove both faucial tonsils and the most luxuriant growth of adenoids under the influence of one gas anæsthesia. Chloroform anæsthesia, it is shown, is responsible for five deaths in these particular operations in less than two years—a mortality which strongly predisposes in favour of the gas. *Wm. Robertson.*

Cozzolino, V.—*Microcidine and Chloride of Sodium for Microbic Impairments, particularly Pyogenic, of the Ear, Nose, and Throat.* "Riforma Medica," No. 50, Aug. 30, 1893.

APART from the second remedy, for a long time very well known and appreciated, we simply quote here that Cozzolino found microcidine (napthol, thirteen per cent., and caustic soda) very serviceable in the above diseases. In purulent otitis, warm solutions of three to four per cent.; in chronic suppurations of the maxillary sinus, one to two per cent., or one-half per cent.; and in simple tonsillitis, two and a half to three per cent. He prefers it to all other antiseptic remedies. *Massei.*

Frazer, R. F. (London). — *Sublimed Sulphur as a Local Application in Diphtheria.* "Brit. Med. Journ.," Nov. 4, 1893.

A REFERENCE to a severe case of diphtheria, which recovered, and in which sublimed sulphur was used, being blown frequently on to the diphtheritic membrane. *Wm. Robertson.*

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Jack, R. J. (London).—*Kerosene in Diphtheria.* "Lancet," May 13, 1893.

DR. JACK mentions two cases—one of diphtheria, and one of late post-scarlatinal diphtheria—in which clearance of the throat and recovery appeared to be due to the employment of the vapour of kerosene or kresaline (!). A teaspoonful every three hours is placed in a vaporizer so as to fill the room with the vapour. *Dundas Grant.*

Councilman.—*Diphtheria.* "American Journ. Med. Sciences," Nov., 1893.

IN this paper the literature on the subject is well brought together, but nothing new is added to it. *R. Lake.*

Friedenwald, H.—*Post-Diphtheritic Paralysis of both External Recti Muscles.* "Med. News," Oct. 21, 1893.

THE patient had had a very mild and unrecognized attack of diphtheria. *R. Norris Wolfenden.*

Williams.—*Membranous Throat Affections.* "American Journ. Med. Sciences," Nov., 1893.

AFTER advocating cover-glass preparations and cultures of all suspicious throats, he demonstrated the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus in scarlatinal diphtheria in about twelve per cent. of all cases of scarlet fever. In reviewing the treatment, he hopes for good from serum injections from immune animals. He dismisses the usual germicides as inefficient. Excepting hydrogen peroxide, fifty volume solution, or twenty-five volume with one and a half per cent. of hydrochloric acid, respectively, it is non-poisonous. Cocaine may be used previously. Dr. Williams also has a set of syringes, sprays, etc., made for this application, and appends a map, showing the distribution of diphtheria in America. He describes the bacillus as tenacious of life—not killed by cold or damp, but by sunlight; period of incubation, probably a few hours. A case is reported in this paper by Dr. J. F. Young in which membrane disappeared under peroxide and reappeared under carbolic. *R. Lake.*

Galloway, W. W.—*A Treatment giving a low Death Rate in cases of Diphtheria in Hospital and Private Practice.* "New York Med. Journ.," Oct. 21, 1893.

THE results obtained were below ten per cent. The treatment consisted of calomel one grain per annum of the patient's age up to eighteen, repeated in four to six hours, and meeting the action of the mercurial with large enemata of hot water; this treatment is continued until full action of the calomel on the liver and kidneys is obtained. Internal treatment, hyd. perchlor. up to one-eighth of a grain, tinct. ferri perchlor. and alcohol hourly; topical treatment, peroxide of hydrogen and twenty per cent. solution of salicylic acid in alcohol, twice daily. The latter is powerful and aids cure. *R. Lake.*

Culbertson, J. C.—*Diphtheria: its Special Diagnosis.* "New York Med. Journ.," Oct. 21, 1893.

A PAPER read at the Mississippi Valley Medical Association, in the course of which the author referred to the importance of bacteriology,

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and mentioned that the New York City Board of Health had undertaken to make bacteriological examinations for all practitioners of medicine free of charge. *R. Norris Wolfenden.*

MOUTH, PHARYNX, &c.

Robertson, William (Newcastle). — *Ulcer of the Tongue.* "Lancet," June 24, 1893.

A SEVERE case of ulceration and multiple nodulation of the tongue of malignant aspect. It yielded to scraping of the ulcers, galvano-cauterization of the nodules, and general treatment by means of mercurial inunction and iodide. Dr. Robertson attributes the rapid relief of pain to destruction of the terminal nerve-twigs by means of the cautery. *Dundas Grant.*

Gorokhoff, Dmitry E. (Dmitrov, Russia).—*Hard Chancre of the Buccal Mucous Membrane.* "Meditzinskoïe Obozrenïe," 1893, No. 17, p. 436.

A PEASANT girl, one year old, was admitted with an indolent, bright-red, crateriform ulcer, situated on the mucous membrane of the right cheek, at the level of the posterior molars, and measuring three-quarters of a centimètre horizontally and a half vertically. Its edges were hard and elevated, forming sharp angles both posteriorly and anteriorly. Both the edges and floor were slightly uneven, and studded with minute points of a milky colour, while the intermediary zone between the base of the chancre and the healthy mucous membrane was marked by a white line. There was present some enlargement of the submaxillary glands of the right side. A week later there supervened roseola, *plaques* on the tonsils and soft palate, etc. Under the influence of mercurial inunctions all the manifestations subsided, the buccal sore healing soundly after a month's treatment.

The inquiry elicited that the infant's syphilitic sister and nurse, aged eight, "had been in the habit of feeding the patient by her mouth"—*i.e.*, by bread thoroughly masticated by the feeder and then introduced deep into the little child's mouth by means of a forefinger.

Valerius Idelson.

Simpson, W. K.—*Sarcoma of the Soft Palate, illustrating the Degeneration of a Benign into a Malignant Growth.* "New York Med. Journ.," Oct. 28, 1893.

THE case lasted, from commencement to termination, two years and three months. The patient, a girl of sixteen, had an apparently simple papilloma removed by scissors. Sixteen months later she came under Dr. Simpson's care with several distinct papillomatous masses springing from different parts of the soft palate, and one or two on the right anterior pillar of the fauces. They were greyish-red, pedunculated masses, exactly similar to those previously removed. These were removed. During the next two months several growths were removed—sometimes removing a large portion of the soft palate; the recurrence was very

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