of my three cases, and the fact that they urged him to collect more
evidence of the existence of the trypanosome, he would have gone home
saying nothing about it. Though he can claim the credit of being the
first to discover the trypanosome in a patient with concomitant symptoms
of sleeping sickness (it had been previously found by Ford in West Africa,
though without the symptoms of sleeping sickness), it is obvious that
the whole task of proving the parasite to be the cause of the disease
as well as its connexion with the tsetse-fly was carried out by Bruce and
Nabarro, as may be seen in the Royal Society's Reports.

It seems extraordinary that the writer in his attempt to acquire kudos
should make it publicly known that (1) he at one time intended to conceal
important data from his Colleagues on the Commission, which might have
tied their hands for months. (2) That he made communications to
members of foreign Universities which surely should have been the
property of the Royal Society, of whose Commission he had the honour
to be a member.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
C. J. Baker,
Medical Officer, Uganda.

Care of the Crown Agents for the Colonies,
Whitehall, S.W., July 8th.

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES."

Sir,—The Castellani-Bruce incident was closed four and a half years
ago—before Dr. Castellani went to Ceylon. The Times of the latter part
of November, 1903, contains several letters on the subject. The matter
also came before the Committee of the Royal Society on Tropical Diseases,
of which I was the Chairman. This fact accounts for my having any­
thing to say on the case.

The statement which I have made in books and articles as to the
parts played by Dr. Castellani and Colonel Bruce has not varied, but it is
in accordance with the finding of that Committee. Dr. Castellani has
always been given the credit due to him for having observed the presence
of a trypanosoma in some cases of sleeping sickness. His present asser­
tion that I have stated in my book "The Kingdom of Man" that he
communicated this to Colonel Bruce "colloquially," is contrary to fact,
as anyone may see who refers to the book. It was Dr. Castellani's
absolute duty, on relinquishing his work in Uganda, to communicate to
Colonel Bruce any observations which he had made and had not followed
up, in order that the purpose for which both Castellani and Bruce had
been sent to Uganda—viz., the discovery of the cause of sleeping sickness—should be accomplished. Dr. Castellani now tells us that he went about binding his fellow-investigators to secrecy, and dictating terms to the officer in charge of the investigations before he consented to reveal the fact that he had (some months before) seen a trypanosoma. He had not, we know, investigated the hypothesis that the trypanosoma was the cause of sleeping sickness, and his work was terminated. He had arranged to leave Uganda; and had he carried out his expressed intention of doing so before Colonel Bruce arrived, the trypanosoma would undoubtedly have been detected without delay by that officer alone. The investigation and confirmation of the hypothesis that the trypanosoma is the cause of sleeping sickness would have been carried out precisely as it was—namely, by Colonel Bruce—and the preliminary paper which Bruce wrote and kindly gave to Castellani to take home and publish as his (Castellani's) would have been printed with Bruce's name as author instead of Castellani's. Dr. Castellani has been blamed (I think rightly) for not sufficiently acknowledging his indebtedness to Colonel Bruce, an omission which has led to a misconception as to his share in the discovery. The account which he has just given us of his melodramatic attempts to secure secrecy and to strike a bargain with his official superior in the public inquiry which he was employed to promote will probably assist your readers in forming a correct opinion as to Dr. Castellani's merits in this matter.

With regard to the claim put forward by Sir Patrick Manson's friends to the effect that he has shown that a mosquito is the agent by which the *Filaria sanguinis hominis* (discovered and so named by Dr. Timothy Lewis) is introduced into the human body, I have only to say that on several occasions I have had to point out that Sir Patrick Manson has not shown this to be the case, nor has anyone else done so. I have not done Sir Patrick the injustice of supposing that he has authorized or suggested the erroneous pretension in question.

May I say in conclusion that the communication published by you on July 8th, over Dr. Castellani's name, appears to be part of a campaign, now of some duration, carried on in regard to the claims to the origination of important discoveries, usually associated with the names of distinguished and honoured investigators, such as Major Ross and Colonel Bruce, by individuals who appear to hope that in this way they may gain increased consideration and support for the London School of Tropical Medicine? These unauthorized efforts must do more harm than good to that institution. So far as I am concerned, I have no interests at stake in this rivalry, and wish that each and all of the schools and laboratories engaged in the study of tropical disease may continue to add to our knowledge of the causes of those scourges.

At the same time, I believe it to be a duty to testify as to matters
Correspondence

within my personal and special experience affecting the correct estimate of claims, to the honour of having rendered public service by scientific discovery.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

E. Ray Lankester.

29, Thurloe Place, S.W.,
July 10th.

THE TREATMENT OF SCABIES BY BALSAM OF PERU.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS."

Sir,—My experience is quite different from that of Lieutenant Aviss. Since January last I have treated sixteen cases of scabies by this method and have had no complications or relapses. Each case was under treatment for twenty-four hours and then sent to duty, being afterwards kept under observation for a month. One thing is necessary, and that is a strict observance of detail, and until one has trained a thoroughly reliable orderly it is better to supervise the treatment oneself. The temperature of the preliminary bath is very important, also the length of time the patient is kept in it. I sometimes find the patient about to be put into a bath barely tepid. I can only imagine that the difficulties experienced by Lieutenant Aviss are due to want of strict observance of details. I personally have found this method of treatment most satisfactory.

I am, &c.,

J. B. Buchanan.

Londonderry,
July 10th, 1908.

Lieutenant-Colonel, R.A.M.C.

OBITUARY NOTICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL SIR JAMES HANBURY, K.C.B.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS."

Sir,—In the obituary notice of Surgeon-General Sir James Hanbury, K.C.B., it was stated that he "was the son of Mr. Samuel Hanbury, a stockbroker in the City of London, and his mother was Frances, daughter of the Rev. W. Sewell, of Headley, Surrey." This is not correct. Sir James was an Irishman. His father was Samuel Hanbury, Esq., of Somerstowns House, Laracor, Co. Meath, and his mother was Louisa,