

Correspondence.

TREATMENT OF KALA-AZAR

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

SIR,—In reading Sir William Leishman's Review of Kala-Azar and Tropical Sore in the February number of the Journal, I notice that he makes no mention of the effect of the application of X-rays in the treatment of tropical sore. While at Rawal Pindi in 1908, a kalassi of the 36th Sikhs came to me with a sore the size of a rupee on the dorsum of his hand. It had been diagnosed clinically as a Delhi sore, and had the typical appearance of one, though I regret that a search for *L. tropica* was not made. Under various methods of treatment with lotions and ointments no improvement was apparent, so I decided to try the effect of the X-rays. After three exposures the sore took on a more healthy appearance, while after seven exposures in all it had completely healed, leaving a particularly neat and unobtrusive scar. Six months later this same man died of cholera and I was able to assure myself that there had been no recurrence.

I was so struck with the success of X-rays in this one case that I think it is possibly worthy of notice.

South Farnboro',
March 2, 1912.

I am, &c.,
P. G. EASTON,
Capt. R.A.M.C.

A QUESTION OF WORDS.

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

SIR,—Why, I most respectfully ask, does "Senior" strain at the poor gnat-anopheles and make no mention of the herd of verbal camels that we all swallow daily?

(By the way, it should be "strain *out* the gnat," I believe, if we are to be meticulous Grecians.)

To take only a few words that spring at once to mind—what about sēptic for sēptic, opsōnic for opsōnic, rādus for rādus, and fibula for fibula? While the shade of Carey alone knows whither Calliope would have flown had Horace invoked her: "Descende coelo et dic age *tibia*."

Furthermore, where in "Senior's" esteem comes the huge army of words that march under the sign of the bar sinister? Is there no handkerchief for his nostrils when, betwixt the wind and his nobility, stalk Appendicitis and his brother Appendicectomy, Monocular and Rectocele, and all the shameless cohorts of Græco-Romish bastardy?