Correspondence

ROYAL SCHOOL FOR DAUGHTERS OF OFFICERS OF THE ARMY.

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

Sir,—Excessive taxation and the high cost of living tend to reduce the number of subscriptions which we can afford; it is hoped, however, that in spite of this inevitable reduction many will be inclined to assist the Royal School for the Daughters of Officers of the Army which is in urgent need of funds.

The School was founded and established at Bath after the Crimean and Mutiny Campaigns, and in the half century of its existence has educated over 1,600 girls. It was enlarged after the South African Campaign, and during the Great War extra accommodation was acquired for forty girls, but further expansion has become imperative if the School is to fulfil the purpose for which it was founded.

The benefits of the School are urgently needed, not only by the daughters of officers killed, but also by those whose fathers have been compelled to retire on small pensions from various causes—unless entry can be placed within their parents' small means, many girls will be denied the opportunity of qualifying for professions which may be their only means of existence in the future.

nowadays who would uphold their status as valid genera. The author's description of *Nyssorynchus* is unintelligible to the reviewer. He thought that the first "abdominal" was probably a misprint for "thoracic," but the same definition is found in the preceding edition of this work, and also in the latest edition of the author's companion practical volume, and so presumably it represents his considered opinion. The anopheline scale variations given are not sufficiently comprehensive to admit such species as *A. maculipes*, and yet space is found for the fantastic "genus" *Aldrichia*, which is described as having its abdomen completely covered with scales, a character unknown in any anopheline. As a matter of fact, *Aldrichia* was founded on a single individual sent from India and which is still in the British Museum. As it exists, the specimen is a monster with the head and thorax of an *Anopheles*, to which, by some devilish cantrip sleight, the abdomen of a culicine has been gummed on! The perpetuation of this fabulous genus illustrates the virtual immortality acquired by any zoological name when once it has gained admission to medical textbooks. It may express a fantastic conception, or the name itself may be demonstrably incorrect. It may go down under a fierce assault, with twenty mortal murders on its crown, yet up it will start again and again with all the persistence of the blood-boltered Banquo, to sear the eyeballs of the astounded beholders.

When another edition of this popular book is called for it is hoped that the author will see his way to revise the section on mosquitoes and bring it more into line with modern views, and so increase still further the usefulness of this excellent pocket manual.
Under present conditions the School accommodates 160 girls of whom fifty-three are admitted at the rate of £20 a year. The rate for the remainder is £90 a year, which compares favourably with the fees charged by other schools of the same standing. The means of giving their daughters a first-class education at this moderate cost is thus a real boon to widows or officers with small incomes.

To enable the School to extend its benefits, it has been decided to enlarge the present buildings by the erection of a War Memorial Wing which besides providing a hall and additional class rooms will enable the School to raise its numbers to nearly 200.

The cost of this scheme will be about £20,000. Past and present pupils and friends of the School have subscribed £13,000, and if a proportion of the balance required can be raised within the next few months, building operations will be started without delay.

The Committee hope that the scheme will meet with the support of the public, as well as that of the officers, both past and present. Much has been done for the sons of officers who fell or were disabled in the war, but not so much for their daughters. In view of the ever increasing part which women now take in public life, and the responsibilities devolving on them, girls now require all the educational facilities which under former conditions were reserved for their brothers.

Contributions should be forwarded to the Secretary, Royal School, 25, Haymarket, London. They should be marked "Memorial Fund." Contributors in India can, if preferred, remit their donations to Messrs. Grindlay and Co., of Bombay, Calcutta and Simla, who have kindly consented to receive the same.

Panton House,

25, Haymarket,

London, S.W. 1.

April 16, 1923.

I am, etc.,

C. C. Munro, General.

Vice-President, Royal School for Daughters of Officers of the Army.

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