

deny that even the *Micrococcus melitensis* is a type—but I am trending towards my own pet “ism,” and that has nothing to do with the subject. In all humility I would suggest that the moral is contained in one word, “tolerance,” a word which trips glibly from the tongues of most, but which is but too often belied by our actions. Perchance, though, some of us may not be too old to lay a good lesson to heart, and if we cannot go quite so far as a descent into the arena, we may still recognise the fact, that the introduction of “an occasional damn into the conversation,” is not necessarily valueless. *Quot homines, tot sententia* may be accepted as a truism, but all the same it has its limitations.

Yours faithfully,

R. H. FORMAN,

Colonel, R.A.M.C.

Bombay,

March 26th, 1907.

#### ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE: AN APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.”

MY DEAR COLONEL,—May I ask you to be good enough to find a corner in the Journal for the following appeal?

As the Royal Army Medical College will shortly be opened, this seems to be an appropriate moment to bring before my brother officers a want which becomes more and more acute; this is, that there is no properly organised department of the Pathological Museum devoted to the collection, identification and classification of the biting flies, insects and other parasites, which play such a large part in the transmission of disease, and especially of the tropical diseases to which the soldier is so liable.

It has long been my wish to organise such a department, and thanks to the kindness of some of my brother officers, I have already the nucleus of a collection. In our cramped and temporary home on the Embankment there was no room to expand in this direction, but this excuse is no longer available, and in our new College there will be ample accommodation.

The need of such a collection requires no advocacy from me, and I am well aware that many have felt its absence to be a handicap to the advancement of research in tropical pathology. A type collection of mosquitoes, ticks, and other parasites of man, would be of the greatest use to all who are working, either to qualify themselves for original research in the tropics, or for the purpose of obtaining a diploma of tropical medicine.

With our large and widely-distributed Corps it should be a matter of little difficulty to start such a collection, if only the co-operation of a few officers in each country could be obtained, and once started, I have little

doubt that, in a short time, we should be in the possession of one of the best collections of the country.

My appeal, then, is that any who may, in this way, be willing to work for the general good, should make a collection of the biting flies and insects which are to be found in their districts and forward them to me at the new College, Millbank. For my own part, I should be extremely grateful for all that may be sent, and, if it is in my power to be of any service in the way of identifying, or getting identified, particular species, or in forwarding information as to the best means of collection and transport, I need hardly say it will give me the greatest pleasure. If the response to this appeal is as large as I trust it will be, many duplicates will doubtless be received, but such will by no means be wasted, since they will be most useful for demonstration purposes in the various classes of pathology.

If those who are willing to help will be good enough to communicate with me, I will give them further particulars as to what is specially required, and, if desired, will be glad to send them such equipment as may be necessary for the mounting and dispatch of the specimens.

*Pathological Laboratory,  
Royal Army Medical College.  
April 18th, 1907.*

Very sincerely yours,  
W. B. LEISHMAN.