a man know he has been treated for an epileptic fit, i.e., has been treated as a genuine sick man and not as a malingering, he will, if necessity arise, use this and "will never work again if he does not want to."

Malingering an epileptic fit is one of the commonest methods employed in attempting to get into hospital—anyhow, in civil life. Branded as a genuine epileptic he can employ a fit at any time to get off unpleasant duties or active service, and I think all will grant that if a man is known to have genuine epileptic fits the difficulty in making a differential diagnosis is multiplied enormously, and one would have great difficulty in pronouncing him a malingering.

For these reasons I think soldiers who have genuine epileptic attacks (grand mal) should be invalided as soon as possible, and even those with petit mal would be better in civil life.

I am, &c.,
August, 15th, 1907.
L. BOUSFIELD,
Captain, R.A.M.C.

LEPROSY AND AN INDIAN FAKIR.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS."

Sir,—The following was delivered at my office, and may amuse your readers. Apparently, Western Scientists will have to look to their laurels. I understand the Urdu postscript is the "Professor's" qualifications plus his address, &c. He did not favour me with a sample.

Yours faithfully,
Bombay,
August 25th, 1907.
R. H. FORMAN,
Colonel, R.A.M.C.

To
The Principal Medical Officer
Town Hall
Bombay Castle
Bombay

RESPECTED SIR

I most humbly and respectfully beg to state that I am a "Fakir," from Deccan Hadrabad, and have in my possession a "Wonderful," and Charming Cure for "Leprosy." On hundreds Occasions I have personally tried it on miserable Victims of the disease in all stages, and the results achieved have been entirely satisfactory. But thinking that this miraculous remedy will find more extensive wide-spread use in your hand than in mine and will be the invaluable means of snatching many hundreds of the miserable sufferers from the fatal jaws of the Baneful cankers.

Under the circumstances I most humbly request you to give it a fair
Correspondence

trial and if found successful, which it surely will, you will kindly recom-
mend its use cause it to be Circulated in all the Hospitals, Public as well
as Private, so as to be an efficient and available means of saving suffering
humanity.

I beg to remain

Sir

Your most obedient

Fakir

WANTED, AN EXPLANATION.

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

Sir,—I am much obliged to Lieutenant-Colonel Manders, but his expla-
nation, if I may so designate it, really amounts to an entomological sketh,
in the main, begging the whole question. I asked for an explanation of
a mosquito-free "oasis" in a malarial-infested area, and he replies by
quoting Wallace's "Darwinism" re the limitation of habitat commonly
observed in many insects, "for no apparent cause," illustrating the fact
by examples. Presumably there is a cause for the absence of the swallow-
tailed butterfly from all parts of England other than Cambridgeshire, just
as there is for the absence of mosquitoes from Sarant Wadi; for Nature
is never capricious (scientifically speaking) but rigidly law-abiding. The
facts are not in dispute, but the cause. One officer kindly wrote to me
from Crete suggesting "lemona," but it is not so in Sarant Wadi, and, at
the best, it could only be a partial explanation.

It was, perhaps, ambiguity on my part that led Lieutenant-Colonel
Manders to imagine that I asserted that fish would not destroy mosquito
larvae. Of course they will, in a given lake or pool (perhaps entirely),
but they can't, and never will do so, in an area of five or ten miles
square, including within it a large native town, numerous villages, and
not one but thousands of breeding places, to which no fish could
gain access, and in which, as a matter of fact, no fish existed. The
"mosquito-brigade" at Colaba the other day, for example, found larvae
in a small collection of water in the fork of a tree. I do not suppose
that Lieutenant-Colonel Manders will maintain that, however ubiquitous
the Indian minnow may be, it is arboreal. I repeat that there are no
mosquitoes at Sarant Wadi anywhere, or at any time, and no larvae to be
found in lake, pond, pool, puddle, rice-field, water-chatty, or any permanent