or casual collection of water whatsoever. At least I failed to find them, and, all the year round, no one uses mosquito curtains. I am afraid, therefore, that Lieutenant-Colonel Manders' suggestion must be regarded, in more senses than one, as "fishy."

By the way, I made inquiry about the birds, thinking it possible that they might have something to do with the matter, and elicited the fact that the common sparrow was also conspicuous by its absence. Is there any connection?

Yours faithfully,

R. H. Forman,
Colonel, R.A.M.C.

NOTES ON THE HEALTH OF EUROPEANS AND NATIVES IN PEKING.

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

Sir,—In the very interesting "Notes on the health of Europeans and Natives in Peking," by my predecessor, Captain (now Major) F. E. Gunter, in the Journal for February, 1906, page 153, the absence of cases of enteric fever among the French, Russian and Japanese Legation Guards for the year 1903 is specially to be noted. In this connection the following translation of a letter—written in answer to enquiries by me—which I received in January, 1906, from the Senior French Medical Officer, who has been in Peking for many years, may be of interest.

I am, &c.,

K. Bruce Barnett,
Major, R.A.M.C.

TRANSLATION.

Dear Dr. Barnett,—This year there have fortunately been no cases of typhoid fever, either in the French Legation or in the Legation Guard, nor yet in previous years since November 1st, 1901, the date on which the Guard was formed. I am of opinion that this result is due (1) to the fact that only distilled water is used for drinking purposes, the well water of the barracks luckily being full of magnesia, and the soldiers having no inclination to taste it. (2) To the sleeping accommodation of the soldiers, all of whom sleep on the first floor of the barracks. (3) To good feeding. (4) To freedom from crowding in the barracks, the men's rooms being plentifully aired during the day and only occupied at night. (5) To the removal from the barracks every morning of all slops and excrement. (6) To the cleansing of the men's clothes, &c., in a special wash-house by washerwomen who use boiling water and soda. (7) To attention to personal cleanliness, which is scrupulously observed and is compulsory. (8) To the care of the mouth, supervised by a medical inspection, an antiseptic powder for the teeth being distributed to the men.
In this country, where during damp and hot weather the earth emits fecal odours, living on the ground floor is particularly dangerous. The cleaning of the nose and mouth after every march and the use of wine, the tannin of which makes an excellent intestinal antiseptic, have also contributed much to the good health of the men. The nearness of the refectory wash-stands is equally a guarantee.

(Signed) Dr. ONIMUS,

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MALTA FEVER.

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

DEAR SIR,—I have been told of an instance of one of our Sisters who, on her way to Egypt, landed at Malta for three hours and had Malta fever by the time she reached Alexandria. If the facts are as stated, they might interest you if you have not already heard of the case. I cannot give you chapter and verse, as I don't know them.

I am, &c.,

Woolwich, M. P. HOLT,
September 2nd, 1907. Major, R.A.M.C.

[It would be interesting to have the details of this case.—Ed.]

SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS—A SUGGESTION.

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

SIR,—May I crave a small space in the Journal to point out to the officers of our Corps how they may help the non-commissioned officers and men to become thrifty and more efficient, and that is by urging them to start a savings bank account (if they have not already done so), keeping the book, and each week persuading them to put some of their pay into the bank?

Instance. A private who was seriously injuring himself with alcohol and nicotine had to his credit in the bank on February 7th, 1907, the sum of 1s., the remains of an account between 1903-5. On February 8th, 1907, he began by putting in 17s., now he has to his credit the sum of £11 19s.

It is very important that the paying officer keep the book and bank the money.

Yours, &c.,

September 21st, 1907.

"CHIRURGEON."