to close spontaneously. The cure will be most perfect when the operator has patience to await the proper time for the removal of the drain.

But it may be said that the creation of a posterior orifice is only altering the difficulty, by substituting for the fistula another posterior to it. To this I should respond that this posterior orifice is not in the condition of a true fistula, because it is placed outside the course of the saliva; and, moreover, the moment the drain is withdrawn, the channel is restored, and nothing will prevent the free circulation of the parotid secretion, consequently the cicatrization of a wound which is in communication with Stenson's duct.

In conclusion, the method I have put in use deserves at least another trial, because it has, in my opinion, the merit of great simplicity, and answers all therapeutic indications.

MEDICAL NOTES ON TRAVELS IN EGYPT, THE SOUDAN, AND THE KUNAMA, OR BASÉ COUNTRY: 1881 AND 1882.

By JOSIAH WILLIAMS, L.R.C.P.Ed., Sheffield.

[Concluded from page 558.]

AFTER about a fortnight's stay at Cassala, having got sufficient camels to proceed with, we struck our tents, and about two and a half days afterwards we reached Heikota, inhabited by the Beniamir tribe, who live on the border of the Kunama, or Basé country. Here the "Inglese Hakeem" was again in great request, and scores of Arabs surrounded my tent every morning with all manner of curable and incurable diseases. One man, who had been blind for two or three years, was brought for me to make him see. The Beniamir Arabs are, I believe, the most powerful tribe in the Egyptian Soudan; very rich in flocks and herds, and their sheik is certainly one of the most intelligent, shrewd fellows I met with. At Cassala, we were disturbed every night by scores of hyænas; they not only surrounded the camp every night, but frequently came into it to see what they could pick up. Here lions were plentiful, and the sheik warned us that it was not safe to sleep without a zareeba (a fence made of the prickly mimosas and kittar bushes), so we fell to, and cut down and dragged in sufficient to do so. And fortunate we were to take his advice, for we found their tracks within two yards of the zareeba in the morning, and frequently heard their roar in the night. We were about to penetrate and explore the Kunama, or Basé country; and all that was known about these people was that Mr. Powell, wife, and child, and suite, got as far as Sarcella and Koolookoo in 1869 or 1870, and that they were all speared by the people who inhabited the village of Sarcella. Sir Samuel Baker also passed a little way through the territory, when exploring the sources of the Nile, saw very little of them, and speaks of them as "a nest of hornets, whose hands were against everyone, and everyone's hands against them." When we came to engage camels, horses, and servants to accompany us, we found that his estimation of their character was cherished by all the natives around us, for we experienced great difficulty in getting sufficient servants and camel-drivers, so great was their fear of the Basé; and then we had to pay them exceptionally high wages to induce them to come; and, as for hiring camels, it was out of the question, the natives saying, "You will all be killed, and we shall never see our camels again"; therefore, these and horses we had to purchase. We bought about fifty camels and a dozen horses, and, with these and the hired men, we started off, about four days after our arrival, to explore the Basé country, and I think I am correct in saying that we are the first Europeans who have done so.

Two or three days after leaving Heikota we were in Basé territory; but we marched for fully a week ere we saw any of the natives, or came to a Basé village; then we came near a village called Koolookoo, and encamped on the river-bed near the village. We sent into the village "our guide, philosopher, and friend," one Beyrumfi by name (one of the Beniamir Arabs, and the only one who could speak the Basé language), with a message of peace, and to acquaint the sheik with our arrival, and solicit the honour of his acquaintance. Our curiosity to see the so-called "noble savage" was, in the meantime, considerable, and many of the natives with us were just as curious. In about half-an-hour's time Beyrumfi could be seen wending his way down the hill-side, accompanied by six Basé warriors, each carrying his assegais and shield. When they came to the river-bed, each one drives his spear into the sand, and drops his shield, and marches straight across to us. We all shake hands with them; they then form a semicircle in front of us, and squat on their haunches; a large bowl of meat is then brought, which they soon dispose of, then coffee and presents for each.

After a long pow-wow through our interpreter, explanatory of our visit, they make the "aman" with us; that is, swear peace and friendship with us. They break a twig with each of us; a sword is then placed on the ground, with the point to us; the sheik then places his naked foot on the sword, and makes a speech to the effect that he looks on us as his brothers, and that no harm shall be done to us in his country. However, he can only speak for himself and his village; for we found out afterwards that one district is daggers drawn with another, and that either will spear the other without scruple when the opportunity presents itself. As this is quite an unknown race, a brief description may be of interest. The young sheik—about twenty-eight probably—was a fine looking fellow, about six feet in height, as straight as a dart, and the possessor of fine well developed limbs. He was artistically tattooed on the back and chest, and wore strips of palm-leaf as a necklace, as an armlet, just below the shoulder, as a bracelet and anklet. Some wore a strip of the skin of a wild animal as a sash, and around the ankles and wrists; some necklaces of beads and bracelets of polished iron, also the tooth of a panther, the small quill of a porcupine, or a large ring in each ear, and sometimes the nose. Their sole article of clothing consists of a bit of skin round the loins, fitting like a pair of bathing-drawers; many also stain their eyelids with kohl, which is in great request by men and women. Their foreheads are narrow and receding. They have not the thick lips and broad flat noses of the negro, but they certainly more approach the negro type than any other tribes of the neighbourhood. Their skin is blacker, their hair more woolly, lips thicker, and noses flatter. Their food consists of "dhurra", the young root and nut of the dhom-palm, wild honey, the nuts of the hebbuck and hagluk trees, the fruit of the baobab—*Adansonia digitata*—lizards, snakes, and monkeys, and any kind of meat when they can get it; milk, also, but this does not seem so very plentiful, as they do not possess large flocks and herds, as the Beniamirs, and camels are not seen amongst them. The women, as a rule, are much better looking than the men, and ornament their heads, ankles, ears, and nostrils, with rings, beads, bracelets, and necklaces; they also wear a bit of skin—cloth when they can get it—around the waist, reaching down to their knees. The game we found in this country consisted of elephants, giraffes, buffaloes, wild cats, ostriches, rhinoceroses, jackals, many different kinds of antelopes, lions, leopards, panthers, hyenas, musk-cats, porcupines, and wild boars, doves, eagles, vultures, sand grouse, and partridges, many specimens of which we secured.

I recollect to have seen a pamphlet somewhere, the title of which was *The Stomach and its Trials*. The stomachs of the Basé appear to accommodate themselves to circumstances, and apparently have no trials.

The first buffalo we killed was surrounded by these savages; and, as soon it was opened, they fell to, and devoured every bit of the entrails on the spot, gorged themselves like boa-constrictors, and, as far as I know, did not suffer any ill consequences from their hearty uncooked meal.

This country would be virgin soil for missionary enterprise, as they have no religion, and marry their daughters, sisters, cousins, and their aunts. The Basé rarely troubled me for medicine. After about a fortnight's marching, we encamped on the borders of Abyssinia; we travelled, for the most part, along a dry river-bed, called the Mareb, which rises in Abyssinia. About four or five days after our arrival here—Maiambusa—we experienced a rude check to our enjoyment. Two of our party had gone in quest of a rhinoceros in one direction, and two in another, three of us remaining in camp. Each party was accompanied by a guide on horseback, a tracker, and a boy on a camel to bring home the game. The party who had gone towards Abyssinia returned about four hours afterwards in a sorry plight, with only one horse between them. I should say that only two gentlemen returned breathless; after a while, the guide returned, minus his horse, and with his face and chest covered with blood, torn by the cruel thorns of the mimosa and kittar bushes; and soon afterwards the camel-boy. They had been suddenly surprised by about one hundred Abyssinians, each armed with the shield and assegais; they stole two horses, two rifles, two revolvers; attempted to spear the camel-boy, missed him, and speared the camel; the boy escaped, the others could not be seen in the confusion which ensued, and the two gentlemen, seeing no one by, made the best of their way off, and miraculously escaped being murdered. When the boy got into camp, we learned from him that Mahomet, the tracker, had been speared in several places, and that he fell across him in his precipitate retreat, with his bowels out and supported in his hands; he had tried to help him along until he could go no further. Mahomet then told him to make haste to the camp—a distance of nine miles—and see if the gentlemen were safe, leave him to die, and save himself. As soon as

we heard this, we sent scouts out to look for the other party, and all set to with a will to cut down all the mimosas and kittar-bushes in the neighbourhood. When we had dragged these in, and formed a strong zareeba, through which no enemy could get—for we fully expected an attack—the other party arrived safely. We then held a council of war, and determined to go in quest of poor Mahomet, and attack the marauders if we could find them. I got my bandages, etc., ready at once, and four of us armed ourselves with rifles and revolvers, and put six rifles into the hands of natives that we could depend on, gave four more a revolver each, and took fifteen of the Basé with us, promising them good backsheesh for every one they killed; they, of course, had their native weapons, the assegais and shield. We mounted our horses, and off we started. At last, we came upon the scene of the late unfortunate encounter, and searched high and low for Mahomet and his assailants, until darkness came on, but without success. We then returned to camp. Next morning, we determined to retreat into the Basé country, fearing that hundreds of these savage border-tribes might swoop down on our camp for the sake of plunder; and we knew that we should only be able to muster about twenty in the whole camp who would fight; the other fifty would run away, we were sure. We had just decided to go once more in search of Mahomet, when there was a great cry of Doctor! Doctor! and every one rushed to one side of the camp, rifle in hand. I stopped to get my rifle also, thinking that now we were in for it, and that we were about to be attacked. But what a pitiful sight met my gaze; there was poor Mahomet supporting a mass of his intestines, and this was his account of himself.

When the camel-boy had left him, he sat exhausted under a tree for some time, and then walked for a time, and in this way made his way on towards the camp until night came on; he then sat under a tree, and remained there all night, expecting every moment that some wild beast would come and tear him to pieces. He both saw and heard us pass as we returned from our search, but could not make himself heard; and next morning he managed to crawl into camp.

On examination, I found him suffering from an incised wound (made with the point of an assegai), about an inch in length, and about an inch below the umbilicus, through which protruded a large mass of intestine covered with sand. I soon gave him some beef-tea and brandy, and washed off as much of the sand as I could. Some was so adherent on the dried intestine (which by this time had a very claret-coloured appearance), that I could not pick it off, for fear of picking a hole in the intestine; and, as I was certain he must in any case die, I contented myself with washing it; and, as I could not return it without enlarging the opening, I did so on a director with a blunt-pointed bistoury, sewed up the wound, and was proceeding to bandage him up, when I found two other flesh-wounds near the spine in the lumbar region, and also one through the fleshy part of the arm. I put sutures in these, bandaged him up, put him on an angarep covered over with palm-leaves, and on this he was carried to the next camp; beef-tea and brandy being administered every half-hour *en route*. At 6 A.M. next day, I was called to him, as he could not pass urine. I used the catheter; but he died at 9 A.M., never having recovered from the state of collapse in which I first saw him. He died about thirty-six hours after he was wounded.

About a fortnight afterwards, we found ourselves once more amongst the Beniamir Arabs, some of the party having made a map of the Basé country through which we passed. During my previous visit, I had performed many minor operations, and had attended to two or three hundred patients. Now, several came to me, thanking me; and some would give me a goat, a sheep, or a skin of milk; one a spear, a shield, or an Arab knife. I might write a great deal more about this journey, but I fear that "the exuberance of my own verbosity" may be too much for the JOURNAL. We went from here to the Settile—a large flowing river—where we encamped amongst the Hamram (or sword-hunting) Arabs for about a fortnight, and then made our way on to Kerin, through the Auseba valley to Massowah, and from there to Suez, Cairo, and Alexandria, returning through Venice home.

I had nearly forgotten to relate how parturition is managed amongst the Beniamir Arabs, the particulars of which I gleaned from the Sheikh, who is the possessor of four or five wives and a host of children. He very good-naturedly offered me four wives if I would remain amongst them for two or three years; but this very tempting offer I declined. When a woman is in labour, she is attended to by some knowing old woman (they would rather die than let a man come near them). Should the labour be protracted, a rope is put under each arm and attached to a piece of wood overhead. On this rope she presses each time she has a pain; and in this standing position she is delivered. I asked, "How do you manage, supposing the child is in such a position as to require instrumental interference?" "Well, then," he said, "we can do nothing, and she has to die." Should she suffer from flood-

ing, she is put to sit in hot water for ten minutes; and then a bandage is wound round her several times as tightly as it can be put; a decoction is then given her to drink, made from tamarinds and the leaves of some tree, the name of which I was unable to ascertain; and, if she live, she is not allowed to taste water for seven days, but has nothing but warm milk. The Abyssinian mode of conducting labour is also curious. The woman lies on her back; two stones are pushed under her buttocks; two women grasp her legs; and, just when the child is entering the world, a tray full of flour is put under to receive it.

I do not suppose anyone will be likely to visit the Egyptian Soudan just now; but when all this trouble is over, doubtless there will be found gentlemen—who prefer a life of travel and adventure, who are fond of sport and scientific research—who are obliged for their health's sake to winter in some more genial clime than England. But to make such an expedition as ours, surrounded as we were by every comfort, requires a very long purse, and it certainly is more enjoyable than roughing it. I spent twelve months in the Turkish army, during the late war—not sent out by the Stafford House Committee—and I know which is the most agreeable mode of travelling. I consider the journey I have just made eminently suitable to a man of a phthisical tendency, and endowed with a plethora of riches, which he should not be afraid of parting with. The air is warm and dry, and rarely are the nights uncomfortably hot, but are for the most part very pleasant and cool. During our journey across the Desert, the thermometer registered, in the middle of December, 82° Fahr. in the shade. We generally took the temperature about 1 or 2 P.M. daily. The heat gradually increased to 90° and 92° by the end of December. During the first few nights we had heavy dews, but as we slept in tents and could shut them up, this mattered little to us. We found two blankets and a quilt were not too much for us. During January, the daily temperature at the same hour was 90° to 92° Fahr. in the shade; but the nights at Cassala were much warmer, and we often found a sheet and blanket quite sufficient. During February, whilst travelling in the Basé country, temperature 90° to 95° in the shade, and frequently in the night as low as 37°. During March, travelling in the Basé country to the Beniamir Arabs, and from there to the Basé Settile, 97° to 102°. April, travelling among the Hamram Arabs on the Settile and on to Massowah, 98° to 105° and 106°. During March and April, the nights were much warmer, but still very comfortable. When we reached Massowah, and got on board a steamer, we ceased taking the temperature.

Except whilst crossing the Desert, we could generally manage to get a bath night and morning. Our meals were always at regular hours—7 A.M. and 2 and 7 P.M.; we retired to rest at 10 P.M., and arose about 6.30 or 7 A.M.; and all of us returned to England heavier, and looking the picture of health. I gained eight pounds in weight, and have possibly prolonged my life by ten years. One of our expedition has not wintered in England during the past seven or eight years, he having a somewhat delicate chest. He has been out in the Soudan two or three times, and finds it suits him better than anywhere else he has visited.

A CASE OF HÆMOPHILIA.

By C. R. FRANCIS, M.B.,

Surgeon-General Indian Army (retired).

J. P., Quartermaster-Sergeant in the —th European regiment, a steady man, unmarried, was about to proceed on furlough, in 1859, to England, under a new regulation made for the benefit of non-commissioned officers of good character; but he did not get beyond Calcutta. Unfortunately, being mixed up in a drinking bout with some former comrades—even the best soldiers will sometimes lose their heads when out for a holiday—he received a blow in the face, from which he nearly, it was said, bled to death. After being on the sick-list for several days, he was sent back to his regiment, of which I was then in medical charge, at Lucknow.

When I was conversing, one day, with J. P. about his misfortune, he told me that he once, when in England, went to a chemist's to have a tooth drawn, and that he did not leave the house for two days. Uncontrollable bleeding followed the extraction, and it only ceased when the chemist restored the tooth to its place—a natural mode of plugging which might have been resorted to earlier.

I became, of course, much interested in the serjeant, and told him to let me know at once if ever he should be unwell. One morning, I was hastily summoned to his quarters, the messenger stating that he was bleeding from the nose, and that it would not stop. Dr. C., another regimental surgeon, who happened to be present, and myself, went at once together. J. P.'s face was much disfigured. He said that he had fallen over a well the previous night in the dark; that his