

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from Sir William Dalby.

DR. DUNDAS GRANT has much pleasure in placing before the readers of the JOURNAL OF LARYNGOLOGY, RHINOLOGY, AND OTOTOLOGY, in accordance with Sir William Dalby's wish, the following letter which he has received from Sir William in regard to his comments on Sir William's statement that "the removal of the ossicles becomes merely a detail in some of the necessarily grave operations for specially grave cases; that their removal cannot usefully be discussed apart from those operations which occasionally are required to save life."

February 5, 1899.

DEAR DR. DUNDAS GRANT,

In the JOURNAL OF LARYNGOLOGY, RHINOLOGY, AND OTOTOLOGY for February, at p. 60, you quote a portion of a sentence from a letter which I wrote to Mr. Cheatle as follows: "The removal of the ossicles becomes merely a detail in some of the necessarily grave operations for specially grave cases: that their removal cannot, I think, usefully be discussed apart from those operations which occasionally are required to save life." And afterwards you proceed to comment on this, attributing to me views and opinions *I am very far indeed from holding*. The rest of the sentence is as follows: "So that a very exhaustive article would be required to discuss the question satisfactorily to the writer or reader. I have written my reasons for not acceding to your request somewhat fully, as I should be exceedingly sorry to appear uncourteous by not giving my reasons, which I hope you will deem sufficient."

By this I wished it to be understood that the removal of the ossicles in suppuration of the tympanum would, in my opinion, be better discussed at the same time as the radical mastoid operation, the two being often so closely allied in regard to protection to life. In fact, in my reply to Mr. Cheatle I have not discussed the matter or expressed any views.

I am sure you would not willingly misrepresent me, and possibly the fault was mine in not making my meaning more clear. All the same, I must beg that in the next number you will publish this note, and you will no doubt be glad of the opportunity of doing so.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

W. D. DALBY.