

CORRESPONDENCE.

November 29, 1915.

To the Editor of THE JOURNAL OF LARYNGOLOGY, RHINOLOGY, AND OTOTOLOGY.

DEAR SIR,—After Dr. J. S. Fraser's paper¹ had been read at the discussion on mastoid grafting at the meeting of the Otological Section, I stated that for many years past, in the case of my patients, a slice of skin had been removed from the upper border of the skin flap above the ear to prevent the ear dropping.

In confirmation of this, I am writing to mention that on page 551 of the second edition of my book, published in 1901, the following passage occurs:

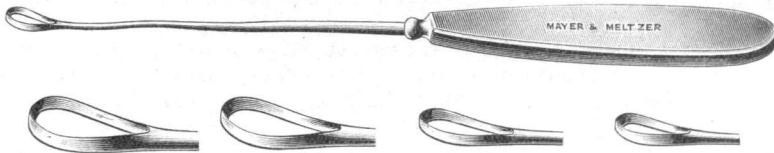
"Unless special precautions are taken, the auricle will slip to a much lower level than its normal position. In order to prevent this, it is well to remove a slice from the upper border of the flap, and then pass some sutures through the flap, and fasten them over drainage-tubing to the skin above the line of the incision."

Yours sincerely,

T. MARK HOWELL.

NEW INSTRUMENT.

THE possible advantages of a malleable over a rigid metal curette in the performance of intra-nasal operations was brought to my mind by the difficulty I often experienced in using the rigid instrument in the more or less inaccessible regions of the nasal cavity and its adnexes. I have accordingly had an instrument made for me by Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer which has a malleable metal shaft four inches in length,



and permits of the curette being turned in any lateral or antero-posterior direction as desired. This instrument, the curette of which is made in four sizes, I have found of great utility in the performance of all intra-nasal sinus operations, and is of special use in the removal of adenoid remains in and about Rosenmüller's fossa by the transnasal route.

Care must be taken to avoid bending the instrument at that place where the rigid curette is joined to the malleable copper shaft.

J. B. HORGAN, M.B.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

We understand that a second edition of Sir StClair Thomson's "Diseases of the Nose and Throat" is in the press. It is headed with the Excelsior motto from Michelet: "*Un livre est toujours un moyen de faire un meilleur livre.*"

¹ See p. 80.