

has hitherto been found to succeed, although as your reviewer states, it is the one thing required to make the instrument perfect.

Some while ago I devised a very simple method by which the little reflector might be maintained at any temperature for a considerable time without requiring the attention of the operator. I ask your permission to briefly describe the application.

The faucial mirror is to be constructed with a shallow cell hollowed into the material of which it is made; and the handle, by which the instrument is held and guided, is to be made tubular. These arrangements permit of a small loop of platinum wire, carefully insulated, being placed at the back of the reflector. Each end of this loop communicates with a conducting copper wire. These fine wires run in the hollow of the handle and form flexible threads which connect the instrument with a Smee's battery of two or three cells. Such a battery once set in action continues for many hours without any appreciable variation in force. Immediately on completion of the circle the loop of platinum wire at the back of the mirror becomes heated and elevates the temperature of the reflecting surface. The amount of heat depends mainly on the strength of the battery used. The mirror may be kept gently and uniformly warm, or the wire maintained for hours at a steady white heat. I need scarcely add that this determination of the temperature is a very simple matter of detail in which no scientific laryngoscopist would find any difficulty. The use of the same warming principle for dentists' mirrors is also worthy of note.

The faucial mirror I have myself employed was made and fitted for me by Mr. Ladd of Beak-street, Regent-street, who will afford any information as to the practical application and working of this process.

HENRY G. WRIGHT, M.D., *Lancet*.

MEDICAL NEWS.

In London, there is one medical man to every 514 persons. — The number of medical practitioners in England in 1851 over 40 years of age, was 11,105; in 1861 there was only 9910. — The Edinburgh College of Physicians has petitioned Lord Palmerston, with reference to the grievances of the Army Medical Department. — Mr. Paget has resigned his appointment of Examiner on Surgery at the Army Medical Board. Mr. Prescott Hewett succeeds him. — Some amusement was recently caused in the House of Commons, arising out of a question put to Sir George Grey, respecting the power of the Archbishop of Canterbury to confer a degree in medicine upon any one whom he might think