To the Editor of The British Journal of Ophthalmology.

DEAR SIR,—Mr. Ernest Thomson, in his description of his interesting disc case reported in your March issue, refers to my case reported in the February number. He asks if there was any history of birth trauma in my case.

I have made enquiries and find that the birth was a natural one, the only abnormality being that the child was born "in a caul." The mother, who has had 11 children, states that instruments were never used in any of her confinements.

The only trauma known of in the case was the fall the mother had about seven months before the child was born.

Yours truly,

ALEX. MACRAE.

OBITUARY

JULES BADAL

We note with regret the death of JULES BADAL, one of the doyens of ophthalmology in France. Born in 1840, Badal began his medical career in the army. He soon left this service, and joined the clinique of Giraud-Teulon in Paris, to devote himself to ophthalmology. In the war of 1870 he served in the army and for his conduct in the siege of Paris was awarded the Cross of the Legion of Honour. In 1878 the Faculty of Medicine of Bordeaux was founded, and Badal was given charge of the ophthalmic clinique. He continued his work there as Professor for 32 years. Badal was the author of a large number of papers on ophthalmic subjects and the inventor of a number of instruments and apparatus for use in clinical work; among these were his ophthalmometer and optometer, perhaps the earliest of their kind.