reading. If in the travails of travel any of our visitors lost their pictures of Bunker Hill or Concord Bridge, I would be happy to replace them.

JOHN B. STETSON
Boston 15, Mass., U.S.A.

REFERENCES
Curry, J. (1792). Popular observations on apparent death from drowning. Northampton.

MAINTENANCE OF PIPED OXYGEN SUPPLIES
Sir,—Cylinder manifolds feeding oxygen pipelines in hospitals are all fitted with connectors adapted to be coupled to cylinder valves having an outlet in accordance with British Standard 341, which is ½" righthand female thread. This type of valve is fitted to oxygen cylinders of 48 cu. ft. capacity and upwards and also to cylinders in this range which are used for compressed air, nitrogen, helium, helium/oxygen mixtures and oxygen/ carbon dioxide mixtures. It is thus possible, for example, for a compressed air cylinder to be inadvertently connected to an oxygen pipeline. Personnel responsible for the maintenance of piped oxygen supplies should be reminded of this fact, and of the recommended code of practice with regard to the storage and handling of cylinders and the system of cylinder identification laid down in British Standard 1319:1955. Cylinders are painted in the characteristic colour according to the colour code shown in this B.S.I. standard and of course, also bear a printed label to identify the contents.

H. J. V. MORTON
Honorary Secretary,
Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland

A SPILL VALVE
Sir,—I was very interested in the spill valve described by Maxwell and Grant (Brit. J. Anaesth., 1960, 32, 616) and should like to point out that the inflating valve described by myself in 1958 is exactly the same in principle as that described by Maxwell and Grant, and can be used as they suggest. It can be obtained from Messrs. Charles King.

J. B. SEARLE
Folkestone

Sir,—With reference to the inflating valve described by Maxwell and Grant (Brit. J. Anaesth., 1960, 32, 316), an almost identical valve was described by Searle in 1958.

Although it was designed for use in the Magill circuit, I have found it very satisfactory when used in the semiclosed absorption set-up.

The valve may be obtained from the British Oxygen Company.

F. G. Etheridge
Chertsey, Surrey

REFERENCE