in warm washable bed-covers, which are washed afresh for each case. The usual coverings for common use have been discarded.

By these means the absolute disinfection of everything that comes in contact with the patient is insured. The next step desired by the author is to have a second theatre reserved for septic cases, leaving the other for aseptic ones.

In the October number of the same Journal, Professor Poncet narrates at length the results of three months' work in the new theatre. Out of 164 important operations, there were in all 7 deaths, of which 6 were quite independent of the operation. The seventh, after laparotomy, was caused by septic peritonitis, which was distinctly traced to infection from the sponges—a result which has led to their still more limited use. In every other case the fresh wounds have healed by the first intention without a trace of suppuration, septicemia, or erysipelas.

Whether the precautions under the head of Direct Contact might not have sufficed, without the expensive arrangements involved in the theatre construction, is open to question. Still the author must be congratulated in having succeeded in planning and carrying out, down to the smallest details, arrangements for aseptic wound management as perfect as it seems possible for them to be in the present state of our knowledge. C. W. C.

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**Part Second.**

**REVIEWS.**

*A Text-Book of Human Anatomy: Systematic and Topographical, including the Embryology, Histology, and Morphology of Man, with special reference to the requirements of Practical Surgery and Medicine.* By Alexander Macalister, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Anatomy in the University of Cambridge. London: Charles Griffin & Co.: 1889.

*An Elementary Treatise on Human Anatomy.* By Joseph Leidy, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Human and Comparative Anatomy and Zoology in the University of Pennsylvania. Second Edition. London: Smith, Elder, & Co.: 1889.

*A Manual of Practical Anatomy.* By D. J. Cunningham, M.D., Professor of Anatomy in the University of Dublin. Part I.—Upper Limb, Thorax, Lower Limb. Second Edition, by the Author, assisted by H. St John Brooks, M.D. Edinburgh: Maclachlan & Stewart: 1889.

These text-books on Human Anatomy are by teachers of great experience and original investigators of acknowledged eminence. We therefore turn to their works with the natural expectation of
finding not merely a summary of other men's observations and opinions, but a scientific exposition of the present state of anatomical science, tinged with the personal views of their respective authors.

Of these works, the most important is that by the erudite Professor of Anatomy in Cambridge. As is evident from its title, this text-book is a very comprehensive one, and it aims at being both a systematic treatise on anatomy and a guide to the student in the practical work of the dissecting-room. It begins with a brief sketch of the development of man, followed by an account of the structure of the tissues. We have then a systematic account of the skeleton, the various joints being described immediately after the bones that form them. The soft parts of the body are not arranged in systems—muscular, nervous, etc.—but in the order in which they are met with in the dissecting-room. This part of the work, therefore, is intended as a practical manual; and Professor Macalister defends this departure from the systematic method on the grounds that it is in that order that “the student learns anatomy in the only place wherein it can be learned, namely, the dissecting-room.” There is much to be said for this plan, but we suspect that the majority of students will continue to prefer a more portable manual for use while dissecting. To obviate this objection, the work might be bound in two parts, and in that form the second volume would make an excellent practical text-book. It is true that this part would contain an account of the microscopic structure of the various organs dissected, but although that is somewhat out of place in a dissecting-room manual, it does not add materially to its size. A more serious objection would be the omission of the anatomy of the joints, since these are described along with the bones, and no directions are given as to their dissection.

Throughout the entire work there is a constant reference to the morphological significance of the structures under examination; indeed, this aspect of anatomy, which in many text-books is entirely ignored, receives here due recognition. Dr Macalister's extensive knowledge of comparative anatomy enables him to speak with authority on many interesting but difficult morphological problems. This is especially the case with reference to the muscular system, and we may cite one example under this head:—“The levator ani is primarily a pubo-ischiatric depressor of the tail, but the atrophy of this organ and the enlargement of the pelvic outlet in man have modified the muscle. Its hinder ischiatic part attached to the rudimentary caudal vertebrae has become coccygeus; its ischiofascial portion, which is inserted post-anally into the raphé by the approximation of its vertebral border to that of its fellow, forms a diaphragm for the pelvic outlet; while the smaller specialized pubo-anal and pubo-prostatic fibres respectively can elevate the anus and prostate.”

In addition to numerous morphological references, the work
abounds in curious and out-of-the-way information. Thus, in the section on the teeth we are told that not only Richard III., but also Louis XIV., Cardinal Mazarin, and Mirabeau had cut their incisors before birth. Again, in describing the palm we learn that the interdigital hillocks are named from thumb to little finger, eminentiae Veneris, Jovis, Saturni, Solis, and Mercurii.

There can be no question but that this work is a very able and scientific treatise, and one that can be consulted with great advantage by teachers and senior students, but we doubt if it will be very popular as a text-book for the average student. The style is so condensed that it is by no means easy reading; and we confess that we should have liked the topographical relations of the heart, lungs, and various other organs described in a more complete and thorough manner. As a rule only one name is given for any particular structure; but we observe that in several instances names are used that are not commonly employed, and no reference is made to the usual designation.

The work is profusely illustrated, and possesses a good index.

Professor Leidy's work does not call for any extended notice. It is a systematic work, clearly written and well illustrated, but for various reasons it is not likely to supersede any of our recognised text-books. It is far from being up to date in the description of the topographical relations of the viscera. Thus nothing is said as to the relation of the cerebral cortex to the skull or scalp. There is no systematic account of the development of the body, and we have failed to find any reference to such an important practical subject as the descent of the testicle; and neither in the description of the peritoneum nor the tunica vaginalis is there the slightest notice of the original relation between them.

The nomenclature is peculiar, the names of the different structures being given as far as possible in English, but the synonyms are printed in small type at the bottom of the page.

The various parts of Professor Cunningham's work on Practical Anatomy have been noticed in this Journal as they appeared, and we need only say that this part fully maintains the high standard of its predecessors. This work is the best practical text-book in the English language.

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Hunterian Lectures on Morbid Anatomy, Pathology, and Treatment of Hernia. By C. B. Lockwood, F.R.C.S. London: H. K. Lewis: 1889.

The three lectures given by Mr Lockwood, the Hunterian Professor of the Royal College of Surgeons of England for 1889, form a book of 165 pages, and are a valuable addition to the pathology of hernia and the raison d'être of the radical cure. The first lecture deals chiefly with the causes of hernia from the "Pathological Theory" point of view, more especially regarding as causes...
the influence of the peritoneum and suspensory apparatus of the abdominal viscera, and the author in this lecture gives evidence of much original work in getting the subject matter together. It is a factor in the pathology of hernia which has been little worked at, and the author at the outset is under the difficulty, which he tries to remedy—no data to go by. Pathology is a departure from the normal, and the normal is got by taking the average in health; but here there is, in questions of length, attachments, and range of movement of the mesentery, no average ascertained. Quain, Treves, and others differ in their views regarding the simple question of the length of the mesentery at different ages, and we think the number of cases examined by Mr. Lockwood insufficient to definitely settle the points at issue. He has, however, brought these important questions in the predisposition of hernia prominently forward, and others will no doubt supplement his observations.

The questions raised and the conclusions arrived at by the author will, however, do much to place the indications and contra-indications for the radical cure on a secure basis.

There are many important points in the treatment of strangulated hernia and in the radical cure referred to in the book, but very little which is new. We are glad the author does not mention, much less recommend, the extra-peritoneal operation, and that he recognises the value of the truss as a curative agent in hernia.

The statistics given at pages 109 to 112 are interesting, and show most clearly that hermiotomy, even under unfavourable circumstances, is an operation which may be performed with comparative safety. We find the mortality of the 689 cases quoted less than three per cent.

The book is well written, but the photographs and charts do little to elucidate the text. The former want definition, due probably to the glossiness and reflection by the peritoneum of the subjects; the charts are in many instances quite unintelligible, and fail to simplify the statistics in any degree. It would be better to distinguish between the ileum or lower part of the small intestine and the ilium of the os innominatum by spelling the former with an e rather than with an i, as used throughout the book.

The Treatment for Internal Derangements of the Knee-Joint by Operation. By Herbert Wm. Allingham, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Great Northern Central Hospital; Surgeon to the Surgical Aid Society; Assistant Surgeon to St Mark's Hospital for Fistula, etc.; late Demonstrator of Anatomy at St George's Hospital. London: J. & A. Churchill, 11 New Burlington Street: 1889.

Within comparatively recent years the treatment of internal derangements of the knee-joint has received very special attention.
Mr Annandale has led the way in successful diagnosis and cure by operation, and others are following in his footsteps. Knee-joint derangements, the exact nature of which was formerly conjectured, are now exposed and set right under antiseptic precautions, and a very troublesome class of cases are being brought within the probability of certain cure.

In the present book of 165 pages, the author has set himself to discuss these internal derangements from the practical rather than from the pathological standpoint. He has collected notes of the various published cases, and has carefully studied the papers of Drs Scott Lang, Knott, and others, who have investigated the mechanism of the various conditions.

Mr Allingham has successfully treated eight such cases. His book, moreover, as a résumé of knowledge on an opening subject, will be welcomed by those who have no time to hunt up the separate papers in scattered journals. In the first chapter he speaks of the mechanical relations of the semilunar cartilages within the knee-joint, and of the symptoms and diagnosis of their various forms of displacement. In the second chapter he describes his method of operative treatment, and urges a vertical rather than a transverse incision. Probably this is not a matter of much importance, as cases seem to have done well after both forms of incision. Another point on which he lays stress is also of doubtful value. He urges that the sutures which unite the skin wound should also pass through the synovial membrane, so as to bring its surfaces together, and protect the joint from risk of contamination of blood, serum, or pus from the more superficial parts of the wound. He seems to forget, however, that should the wound go wrong and suppitate, the stitches or their tracks will guide the septic mischief directly into the joint. Surely a better plan would be the usual one of buried catgut stitches uniting the edges of the cut synovial membrane with separate superficial sutures for the margins of the skin. As to drainage, after having tried both ways, the author prefers the use of a drainage-tube for a day or two after the operation.

The third chapter is a collection of cases in which the semilunar cartilages have been operated upon.

In the fourth chapter the author shows how alterations of the ligamenta alaria may become a cause of internal derangement of the knee-joint. This has been hitherto almost an undeveloped branch of the subject, and Mr Allingham has done good service in working clinical and anatomical knowledge into a connected account of this form of internal derangement.

In speaking of the treatment of enlarged ligamentum alarium by section, the author makes a very curious pathological statement as a reason for the stitching the stump into the wound,—"Moreover, by cutting off the ligament, and dropping the stump back into the wound, a piece of fat would be exposed which is not covered by synovial membrane, and a raw surface be left, from which suppura-
tion might start, and end in destruction of the knee-joint." This seems to overlook the bacteriological causation of suppuration, and to assume that process to be some peculiar property of a raw surface of fat! This must have been a slip.

The fifth chapter on loose and pedunculated cartilages, and villous fringes, treats of several methods of dealing with these inconveniencies, which have now been superseded by direct antiseptic incision.

The last chapter on Hydrop's Articuli chiefly follows Messrs Barwell and Macdonell.

For those who have no time to consult all the original papers on the subject, and even for those who have, we would advise the study of this book as an important guide to practice.

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**Suppuration and Septic Diseases.** Three Lectures by W. Watson Cheyne, F.R.C.S. Edinburgh and London: Young J. Pentland: 1889.

The subject of these lectures really is "micro-organisms." In the first lecture we have an account of the "pyogenic organisms;" in the second, of the conditions of the human body favouring or permitting the action of these organisms; and in the third, an account of the various relations and relative importance of these organisms, the condition of the tissues of the body, and other influences in the production of suppuration and septic affections.

Mr Watson Cheyne has represented the subject to his readers in a pleasing and instructive manner. The lectures were delivered in 1888, but by means of added notes they are brought up to the knowledge of the present day.

In his preface Mr Watson Cheyne refers to the work of Lister, Ogston, and Rosenbach as the three great landmarks in the history of bacteriological discovery.

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**A Practical Treatise on Eczema and its Treatment.** By M. J. Rae, M.D., late Physician to the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary, etc. London: J. & A. Churchill: 1889.

There are certain medical terms which have been seized on by the public, and from an imperfect acquaintance with their meaning, whose signification has been perverted or whose importance has been unduly exaggerated. Infection, tumour, cancer, and now eczema, may be cited as illustrations in point. That there is a morbid dread of infection prevalent in the popular mind can hardly be denied; and should any serious epidemic arise, this might have disastrous consequences. The terms tumour and cancer have been nearly eliminated from the vocabulary employed by a discreet
doctor when conversing with a patient. In the same way the idea of eczema among the laity is too much that of an intractable disease, constantly liable to recur, and with difficulty curable. Hence it is not surprising that in recent years several works devoted to eczema have appeared. We are, however, not quite sure if this most elaborate compilation of Dr Rae’s is entirely calculated to dispel the false impression to which we have alluded. It has been said that the obstinacy of any complaint may to a certain extent be gathered from the number of remedies recommended for its cure, and a goodly if not a motley array is here provided. In the preparation of the volume Dr Rae has culled from may sources—we will not say good, bad, and indifferent, but assuredly with impartiality from ancient and modern alike. His descriptions are not always as clear as might be desired, but he has on the whole succeeded in presenting a picture of eczema in its several phases drawn with tolerable distinctness. His theory of the nature of eczema seems to be, “that there exists some peculiar idiosyncrasy or diathesis, or some innate susceptibility of the skin itself, or some inherent impressionable condition of the nervous system, which renders its relations with cell-life liable to be easily disturbed, and thus renders the skin obnoxious to the various causes, external or internal, which excite an eczema.” Whether this makes our acquaintance with eczema any clearer or more definite our readers can judge for themselves. Dr Rae holds the views of Brocq, though without referring to his communication on the subject, “that when a case of chronic eczema presents itself in an individual of advanced age or of weak constitution and impaired health, and is known to be substitutive for bronchitis, severe dyspepsia, or other internal disease, palliative rather than energetic local treatment should be adopted, as the arrest of the eczema might lead to the development of the substitutive internal malady and serious results follow.” With this all reasonable medical men will agree, the precise treatment being adapted to the particular case. The therapeutics of eczema are very fully stated, most of the new remedies or methods finding a place. A preference is expressed for the tincture of the perchloride of iron when ferruginous preparations are indicated, and of its value in eczema there can be no question; but it will scarcely be as readily admitted “that its curative action in scarlatina, erysipelas, and other exanthemata is now well established,” unless with very considerable limitation. The work is one which the experienced physician may possibly find useful for reference, but the elaborateness of its details, and the multiplicity of remedies suggested for the same or closely allied objects, will prove extremely puzzling to the younger members of the profession who may consult its pages.
Injuries and Diseases of Nerves and their Surgical Treatment. By Anthony A. Bowlby, F.R.C.S. London: J. & A. Churchill: 1889.

A record of much patient investigation and research; an extensively and beautifully illustrated monograph on a subject not much understood; an invaluable work of reference, and a book that will repay investigation. Those who read Mr Bowlby's papers in the Lancet, which are the basis of this volume, will understand the above statement. Those who wish to know something about the surgery of the nerves will do well to study Mr Bowlby's publication. The book is large, and contains a great deal of material; but it is necessarily so, for it is the record of an immense amount of work and investigation. It will be eminently useful as a book of reference.

The Young Practitioner, with Practical Hints and Instructive Suggestions as Subsidiary Aids for his Guidance on Entering into Private Practice; being modified Selections from, with Additions to, "The Physician Himself" by Jukes de Styrap, M.K.Q.C.P., etc. London: H. K. Lewis: 1890.

The Young Practitioner is dedicated to Dr Webster Cathell, the author of The Physician Himself, and rightly, as both works have the same aim and employ much the same method. In both, the aim is to advise the young physician how to bear himself in the battle of life; how to deal with his patients and his professional brethren so as to give his talents the best chance, and to maintain the dignity of the profession. The books differ in many respects, just as practice in America differs from practice in England, and both differ in details as to what would be necessary advice to a young Scotch practitioner. For instance, Dr de Styrap thinks it necessary to warn his young friend against making special arrangements as to prescriptions and percentages with druggists. Surely that advice is not needed in Scotland? Frequent collections of debts are advised—half-yearly, or even quarterly sending in of accounts; cash payments are suggested. On the whole, the tone of the work is admirable. The golden rule is shown to be the real basis and motive of medical etiquette, and many excellent hints as to manner, dress, and deportment are given. You can't make a gentleman by writing out rules, but you can often prevent solecism of behaviour by a wise hint to a young man. In these latter days, when specialists secure nearly all the paying patients and quacks amuse most of the upper classes, who, as a rule, pay badly or not at all, this work may amuse the too great leisure of the young practitioner who, in an overcrowded profession, is waiting patiently behind his doorplate, and means to keep his hands clean from quackery and trickery.
**On the Causes, Treatment, and Cure of Stammering.** By A. G. Bernard, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Pp. 71. London: J. & A. Churchill: 1889.

Dr Bernard has written a useful little book. The twelve rules given are practical and clear, and we should think that a stammerer who really masters them and the 31 exercises which are advised will be greatly benefited, if not perfectly cured. The exercises, which consist of poems to be committed to memory, are well chosen, and we expect that physicians who have to treat stammerers will be aided by the book.

Dr Bernard thinks that there are at least 35,000 stammerers in Great Britain. In Prussia, statistics in 1830 proved that there was one stammerer in every 500 of the population.

As the book is intended for general readers, the prescription should have been omitted.

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**The Diseases of the Madras Famine of 1877-78.** By Alexander Porter, M.D., F.R.C.S.I., M.R.I.A., &c. Pp. 247 and Index. Nine Illustrations. London: H. K. Lewis. Madras: Government Press: 1889.

During the Madras famine in 1877-78 the author of this interesting book was in charge of a famine relief camp at Royapettah, and he gives an account of the 3250 patients who were under his care. 1117 deaths took place, being 34.26 per cent. The results of 459 autopsies which were made are given in considerable detail.

The subjects treated of in this volume are—the Alvine Fluxes without and with intestinal ulceration, and with diphtheritic effusion, and cholera, followed by a carefully written account of the general pathology of these affections. The author’s experience of dropsy, atrophy, fever, and pyemia is next given, followed by a chapter on acute pneumonia and phthisis pulmonalis. In Chapter VI. seven local diseases are dealt with, viz., hepatic abscess, cerebral haemorrhage, aphasia, cancer, ulcers, ulceration of the intestines, and enteritis. The chief value of the book lies in the careful account of the post-mortem examinations, the details of which are very full and clearly given, and the summary of the post-mortem appearances which the author gives is admirable. With regard to the illustrations, they are, with one exception, good copies taken from The Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion. Five appendices dealing with statistics are given, and the details regarding the weight of the body and of its organs, as well as the description of the bodily state of the patients, are of considerable interest. The index is very full.
Manual of the Public Health Acts. By J. Eaton Dykes and Dudley Stuart, Advocates. Edinburgh: Bell & Bradfute: 1890.

It has always seemed strange to us that no one has ever compiled a book embracing all the Scotch Statutes relating to Public Health. Perhaps during Sheriff Monro's lifetime others may have thought that in doing so they would be encroaching on ground which no one knew better than he did, and in this they were probably right; but since his death the want of such a book as we have now before us has made itself very generally felt. The present volume, although not containing all the statutes relating to Public Health, which would have rendered it a much more bulky volume, yet contains all those most commonly required.

The Public Health Act of 1867, the first of its kind, and marking the commencement of a new era in all matters relating to the health of the people, with its various amending Acts, has been carefully and profusely annotated, and we cannot too highly praise the discernment which has been used in this respect in bringing out the scope and meaning of the various terms. The authors have drawn largely on English cases, but as the law on both sides of the Tweed is almost identical, the English Act having followed and been founded on our Scotch Act of 1867, the decisions are applicable, and it is of great value to be able to refer to the necessarily much larger experience of the English Courts.

Besides the chief clauses of the Local Government Act there are two Appendices. The first containing the practical forms issued by the Board of Supervision, and various bye-laws recommended by them for the use of Local Authorities, such as those on the duties of medical officers and sanitary inspectors under the Public Health Act, Rules and Regulations for Common Lodging Houses, and the Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milk-shops Order.

In Appendix II. there are the chief clauses of the Alkali Act; Factoy and Workshops Acts, 1878 and 1883; The River Pollution Prevention Act, 1876; and the Infectious Disease Notification Act, 1889. There is also a copious and very carefully compiled index, a most necessary adjunct to a book of reference such as this.

It will thus be seen that we have a compact volume containing all the chief sanitary enactments up to date. We must congratulate the authors upon their work, and the publishers upon its excellent get up and opportune appearance at a time when Public Health occupies such a large share of attention throughout the country in connexion with the new County Councils; and we do not doubt that the volume will prove indispensable not only to medical officers and sanitary inspectors, but also to those councillors who are now responsible for the sanitary state of their counties.
The Year-Book of Treatment for 1890. London, etc.: Cassell & Company, Limited.

This annual is now well known. Its utility is beyond question. Though one or two of the sections may be considered defective by specialists, there is no doubt that as a whole it will be welcomed by the practitioner, who cannot afford time to wade through articles in weekly and monthly journals for the assistance that he requires in the treatment of obstinate cases.

American Resorts, with Notes upon their Climate. By Bushrod W. James, A.M., M.D., etc. Philadelphia and London: F.A. Davis: 1889.

This book is primarily “intended for invalids and those who desire to preserve good health in a suitable climate.” It is written in the semi-popular style common to all such medical guide-books, and contains a good deal of information that will be as useful to the practitioner as to his patient. A translation of a portion of “Die Klimate der Erde” of Dr Woeikof is added. The index is very complete. The map prefixed to the volume may be an excellent one, but it gave so much trouble in unfolding, and seemed so likely to tear across, that we incontinently closed the book with maledictions on publishers who will persist in turning out maps in that style.

Medical Book-Keeping.

We have received specimen pages of Dr Sheen’s (Cardiff) system of Medical Book-keeping, his Handy Medical Visiting List and Temperature Charts. The latter are very neat, and of such a size that they can be readily inserted in any note-book. The Handy Visiting List is a weekly one, and may suit those medical men who prefer such lists. The Day-book and Visiting List are probably as simple as they can be made for the complex entries required by practitioners who dispense their own drugs. For our own part, we confess to a liking for a system which appears to us even simpler, but then every one prefers the system he works out for himself to all others under the sun; and those who have not, or who do not care to work out a system for themselves, may find Dr Sheen’s very useful.

Habitual Drunkards.

Messrs Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, have published together in a convenient form—1. An “Explanatory Memorandum” of Mr Charles Morton’s Restorative Homes Bill for Scotland. 2. A Report of a Meeting of the Legislative Committee of the British Medical Association to consider Mr Morton’s Bill. 3. A Report in full of a Discussion on the same subject in the Edinburgh Medico-Chirurgical Society. 4. Resolution of the Society for the Study of Inebriety. 5. Resolution of Midland Medical Society on the same subject.

EDINBURGH MED. JOURN., VOL. XXXV.—NO. IX.