Dettweiler and his followers define “absolute cure” as the “re-establishment of the normal functions of all the organs, and the absolute disappearance of bacilli”; and Knopf asks why a lung occupied by fibrous nodules after the cicatrization of tubercles should not be equally termed cured, as the intestine after typhoid fever when Peyer’s patches show cicatrization. The results obtained in twenty-four well-known sanatoria are tabulated by Dr. Knopf, and are utilised as evidence of the curability of phthisis and of the superiority of the sanatorium treatment over any other method of dealing with disease.

Adopting Dettweiler’s terms, the author’s statistics show—Absolute cures, 14 per cent.; relative cures, 14 per cent.; amelioration, 42 per cent.

After devoting several chapters to the individual and public prophylaxis of tuberculosis, Dr Knopf proceeds to describe in detail the hygieno-dietetic treatment. His practice of the method resembles that of other writers on the subject, but he makes special points of the use of the pneumatic cabinet and of respiratory exercises. Altogether, the work may be highly recommended as giving an excellent description of many of the best sanatoria, and as setting forth the teachings of the best exponents on this method of treating consumption. Seeing that the work before us received honourable mention from the Academy of Medicine of Paris, whilst the somewhat abridged English edition of the same work was awarded the Alvarenga Prize by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, any praise would be superfluous.

F. W. BurUON-FAUING.

Histology of the Blood, Normal and Pathological. By P. Ehrlich and A. Lazarus. Translated by W. Myers, M.A., M.B., B.Sc. Cambridge University Press. 1900.

This is a translation of the first part of the article “Die Anämie” by Ehrlich and Lazarus in Nothnagel’s “Specielle Pathologie und Therapie,” and in presenting it in this form Mr. Myers has done a service which will be much appreciated by physicians and pathologists alike in this country.

A great deal regarding Ehrlich’s methods and results has already made its way into current literature; but in this article a more masterly and comprehensive account of them is given than in any other publication. The outstanding principle is an analysis of the structural elements of the blood in health and disease, by means of their reactions to various aniline stains; and no one who reads this work can fail to be struck by the important advance which has thus been made. The opening chapters contain an account of the clinical methods, including those applied to estimating the specific gravity, coagulability, alkalinity, etc. The various staining fluids are fully described, and, what is of equal importance, the principles on which the staining reactions depend are explained. This is a part which should be understood by every histologist. The results of the application of these methods are next given—in relation first to the red corpuscles, and afterwards to the leucocytes. With regard to the former, the polychromatophil degenera-
tion and the varieties of nucleated red corpuscles are probably the most interesting subjects. The importance of the megaloblastic type in pernicious anaemia is strongly insisted on; but we would have wished a fuller explanation of the condition of the bone marrow. This seems to us to be a reversion of type, and if it is due, as Ehrlich suggests, to the action of a toxine, some intermediate factor is necessary to bring the phenomenon into line with other pathological processes. The occurrence of a similar condition of the marrow in bothriocephalus anaemia—a point of great importance—is referred to.

The greater part of the book is occupied with an account of the leucocytes; and it is here that the most valuable results have been obtained. One of the most important conclusions is, that both the neutrophile and eosinophile leucocytoses are due to the action of different chemiotactic substances on the bone-marrow. This conclusion, with which, from our own observations and experiments, we entirely agree, has been arrived at by interpretation of the staining reactions in health and in various abnormal conditions; it is one of fundamental importance in general pathology. The relations of the spleen, lymphatic glands, and bone-marrow to the various forms of leucocytes, are fully discussed; but we think that Ehrlich's position could have been made even stronger if the subject of mitosis in the varieties of leucocytes had been fully dealt with. Leucocytæmia is exhaustively treated. Here also the value of staining reactions comes out very prominently. We question, however, whether the term "mixed leucocytosis," applied to the myelogenic variety, is justifiable at present. This variety appears to us more closely related, as regards its essence, to the lymphatic variety than to the leucocytoses. The appearance of numerous erythroblasts in the blood is evidently not due to chemiotaxis, but is a passive phenomenon. These are, however, points regarding which much diversity of opinion prevails. The volume is undoubtedly one of far-reaching importance, and it has a special interest, inasmuch as its greater part is constituted by the original work of one man.

The translation has been carefully and accurately done. If it errs, it is in the direction of being too literal at times. The only important slip we have noted, is the occurrence of "myelocytes" instead of "megalocytes" on p. 53.

Robert Muir.

Surgery, its Theory and Practice. By William Johnston Walsham, F.R.C.S., M.B., C.M. (Aberd.). Seventh Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1900.

The reputation of this popular text-book of surgery will in no way be diminished by the new edition—the seventh—which is now before us. In spite of the deletion of matter which has become obsolete, the size of the volume has increased by 100 pages, and it has been found necessary to increase the size of the page—a change which greatly adds to the attractiveness of the book. New illustrations to the number of seventy-three have been added, including sixteen skiagram plates. While no one with any experience will deny the invaluable aid which the use of