Quain's *Elements of Anatomy*. Eleventh Edition. Editors—
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Johnson Symington, M.D., F.R.S., and Thomas Hastie
Bryce, M.A., M.D. In Four Volumes. Vol. II, Part 2—
Splanchnology. By J. Symington. London: Longmans,
Green & Co. 1914.

Quain is so much a classic, and the editors of successive
editions men of such established reputation, that it seems
almost unnecessary to say what an excellent account of the
viscera this volume gives. One could wish, however, that in
many instances the account were more exhaustive. There
seems a tendency, for example, to ignore alternative views,
which in a book of this character might well be included, since
Quain is as much a book of reference as a text-book; and while
there is some attempt to include a bibliography, it is so
hopelessly incomplete that one questions if it would not have
been wiser to omit it altogether. Unfortunately, too, as it
seems, it is just in those sections of the volume on the subject of
which much work is at present being done that the references
are most defective.

While one recognises the good qualities of this volume, the
descriptions of the various viscera are far from uniformly
excellent; and while, for example, the account of the
peritoneum, of its pouches, folds, and abnormalities, is splendid,
the section dealing with the ductless glands can only be
described as poor. Why, even from the meagre account given,
all description of the pituitary gland is omitted, and one is
referred for this to another volume, is quite incomprehensible.
Surely it matters little whether the body in question lies in the
skull or the abdominal cavity: if it is a ductless gland it should
be described with the other comparable structures. There is in
this section for some reason a lamentable incompleteness; why,
it is difficult to understand, since much of the work on ductless
glands is recent and therefore easily accessible. As an example of incompleteness, the description of the parathyroids is striking, almost no reference being made to the many variations in their position, some account of which, at least, is given in every student's text-book. Under spleen, too, one finds much to cavil at. The description of the renal surface as flat, the slumping of the pancreatic impression with the base, the cheerful assumption that arterial capillaries open into the pulp spaces directly, the complete absence of all mention of Wall's excellent account of the spleen lobules—all leave one with the impression that at least this section might have been improved by careful revision.

Here, too, while there is no mention of the so-called scapular body, the equally dubious cardiac glands are described as if they were old and tried friends.

One finds, however, with satisfaction that some attempt to bring the topography of the stomach into line with skiagraphic findings has been made. While this is the case, one cannot but regret that it has not been more thoroughly carried out, and that the geometrical factor in the apparently contradictory findings is not emphasised. It may be that in this, a subject to which one has given careful consideration, one is apt to be hypercritical, but it seems unfortunate that the difference between a solid and its projection is not mentioned. Among other defects might be mentioned the incompleteness of the description of the so-called ligaments of the uterus, the lack of colour in the illustrations, and in many of these, too, the unfortunately flat impression they give. One could wish also that some of the illustrations had been larger, and others smaller; for example, that the large and very diagrammatic sections of the lower abdominal cavity, which recur so frequently, were smaller, and that some of the really excellent reproductions of frozen sections were larger.

In the space at one's disposal it has been impossible, of course, to do more than record in a more or less impressionist manner one's opinion of this volume, and if this account of it seems to describe only the faults, it is because they are rendered the more obvious by contrast with the many excellencies of the work, and because Professor Symington has achieved so much that one cannot but wish he had achieved more.
Quain was so long a classic, so long the "best" text-book on anatomy, that it is with the utmost regret one comes to the conclusion that, even in the slightest degree, the idol is less stable on its pedestal.

The Dietetic Treatment of Diabetes. By B. D. Basu, Major, I.M.S. (retired). Fourth Edition. Allahabad: The Panini Office. 1913.

The popularity of Major Basu’s little volume is sufficiently attested by its having reached a fourth edition in the brief space of four years. It will be found by those who are unfamiliar with it to be a compendium not only of the practice but of the theory of the dietetic treatment of diabetes, and although for Occidental readers much that is said of the value of Indian food-stuffs is superfluous, there yet remains much that must prove of value to those embarrassed with the difficult problem of affording the diabetic an adequately varied diet.

Pain: Its Origin, Conduction, Perception, and Diagnostic Significance. By Richard J. Behan, M.D. New York and London: D. Appleton & Co. 1914.

This elaborate work is the result of Dr. Behan’s conviction that the significance of pain is in a diagnostic sense very frequently misunderstood, and represents his endeavour to collect in one volume all that is known of the nature and significance of pain. With this end in view, he has laid under contribution the fruits of a very extensive acquaintance with the literature—how extensive may be seen from the bibliography with which his volume ends—and he has brought to the analysis of his great stores of material no small amount both of critical and constructive faculty.

The first part of the book deals with general considerations, and is divided into chapters devoted to sensation in general, the nature and distribution of pain, the perception of pain-sensation, the classification of pain, and the intensity of pain. The author
then passes to the consideration of pain in connection with diseases of the nervous system, of the muscles, the bones, the circulatory system, and the glandular tissues. He next takes up the subject of regional pain, and this discussion is followed by chapters on pain in the organs of special sense written by representative members of the Vienna medical school. Pain in the abdominal wall and in the abdominal viscera next receives attention, and upon this follows a consideration of pain in the genito-urinary system, and, finally, of thoracic pain due to diseases of the heart or lungs. The treatment of every subject is very thorough, and in each section much is to be found which is of profit to the physician or surgeon.

The illustrations, whether diagrammatic or photographic, are numerous and technically excellent, but there would seem to be no good reason for the prevalent American custom of using photographic illustrations of the female nude figure for the purposes of a scientific work.

Diagnosis of the Malignant Tumours of the Abdominal Viscera.
By Professor RUDOLF SCHMIDT. Translated by JOSEPH BURKE, M.D. London: William Heinemann (Rebman, Limited). 1913.

This book is much to be commended for the light it throws upon what is often an excessively difficult subject. The diagnosis of malignant abdominal tumours is too often allowed to rest upon mere probabilities, and many unnecessary laparotomies are the consequence. No doubt the diagnosis can always be certainly made as the result of operation, but it is too little remembered that laparotomy is in itself a shock, and if its only result is to discover an inoperable tumour, it can do nothing but harm to the individual patient. In order that an operation should be successful, accurate and early diagnosis is required; and it is no small achievement of Professor Schmidt's that he has produced a volume which is calculated to be exceedingly helpful in many a doubtful case. His book is divided into a general and a special part, the former dealing with abdominal examination and with the bacteriology, symptomatology, and
etiology of malignant abdominal disease, while the latter discusses the special diagnosis of malignant affections of the several abdominal organs. Following these two parts there comes a series of illustrative case-histories, to which frequent reference is made in the text, and which constitutes a valuable feature of the book. The translator, though in other respects he has done his work well and accurately, has unfortunately adhered too closely to the German idiom for the achievement of an easy English style; but, in spite of this drawback, the volume may be commended to the careful study of the diagnostician.

Abel's Laboratory Handbook of Bacteriology. Second English Edition, Translated from the Fifteenth German Edition by M. H. Gordon, M.A., M.D., B.Sc. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1912.

This is one of the Oxford Medical Publications. It can be carried in the pocket, and, considering its size, contains a great deal of information most useful to the laboratory worker. Incorporated with the translation is an account of some recent methods in use in this country.

After a chapter each on the microscope, sterilisation and disinfection, nutrient media, culture methods and staining methods, there is an account of the special media for, and the cultivation and staining of, a list of some twenty-nine organisms, including yeasts and moulds. The chapter on "Methods of obtaining material from the body" is revised and amplified by Dr. Horder, and that on "Methods of examining the blood in relation to immunity" is edited by the translator. "Inoculation and post-mortem examination of animals," and "Methods of preserving preparations, cultures, and organs" are each the subject of a chapter. The chapter on the examination of water, milk, sewage, &c., is revised and amplified by Dr. Houston, and, similarly, that on the examination of dust and air, by the translator.

Some of the translated English is rather laboured, and we would take exception to one or two of the abbreviations, e.g., "B.i." for the influenza bacillus, "B.ty." for B. typhosus, "aq.
com." for—what? And so far as we have seen there is no explanation of the meaning of a *plus* and *minus* sign occurring together in some of the tables. On p. 117 it is stated that B.ty. does not change the colour of neutral-red glucose-agar; and lower down on the same page the fermentation of this sugar is cited as a means of differentiating it from the dysentery bacillus.

*Transactions of the American Surgical Association*. Vol. XXXI. Edited by ARCHIBALD MACLAREN, M.D. Philadelphia: Wm. J. Dornan. 1913.

This volume of *Transactions* for the year 1913 contains many interesting papers in different fields of surgery. Fractures, congenital dislocation of the hip, amputations, blood-vessel surgery, surgery of the thyroid gland, and diseases of the sigmoid flexure are among the subjects considered.

It is to reports like these that the surgeon must turn when desirous of becoming acquainted with the best work of our American *confreres*, and we can assure him that he will find much profitable reading within the covers of the present volume.

*Tuberculin in Diagnosis and Treatment*: A Text-Book of the Specific Diagnosis and Therapy of Tuberculosis. By Dr. BANDELIER and Dr. ROEPKE. Second English Edition. Translated from the Seventh German Edition by W. B. CHRISTOPHERSON. London: John Bale, Sons and Danielsson. 1913.

"BANDELIER and Roepke" bids fair to become in its English dress as indispensable to the tuberculin therapist in this country as the speedy exhaustion of seven German editions shows it to have become in Germany. The second English edition, ably translated by Mr. Christopherson, puts in the hands of English workers a complete compendium of the diagnostic and therapeutic uses of tuberculin. Beginning with a discussion of the theoretical basis of the tuberculin reactions and of tuberculin
therapy, the authors pass to a general consideration of the application of the tuberculin tests with their indications and contra-indications, and then treat of their particular application in diseases of the different organs of the body. The remainder of the book is occupied with the subject of tuberculin therapy, general principles being first discussed, and the merits of the various tuberculin preparations considered in detail. The authors give the preference to bacillary emulsion (tuberculin B.E.) for therapeutic use. The special section on the treatment of pulmonary and other forms of tuberculosis follows, and the volume ends with a bibliography useful for German literature, but containing very little reference to English publications. The illustrations showing the appearances of the cutaneous and percutaneous reactions, and the charts showing the courses of cases treated by tuberculin, form a valuable addition to the book, which may be warmly commended to all interested in tuberculin therapy.

_Surgery of the Vascular System._ By Bertram M. Bernheim, A.B., M.D. With 53 Illustrations in Text. London: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1913.

This book is intended to be a practical and suggestive aid to surgeons interested in the surgery of the vascular system, and the author has, by taking for granted a fundamental knowledge of the conditions to be treated, attempted to make the text as simple as possible.

In a historical note prefixed to the volume, the author points out that previous to the work of Carrel blood-vessel surgery comprised chiefly the treatment of aneurysms. Nowadays the subject has widened to include the repair of injured blood-vessels, transplantation of arterial or venous segments, anastomosis, and direct transfusion of blood.

The various chapters deal with these subjects, beginning with a consideration of general technique. Transfusion is then taken up. The methods of Crile and Elsberg are described, and are followed by the details of the author's method by a two-piecéd tube. End-to-end suture, lateral anastomosis, transplantation of a segment of vein or artery, and reversal of the circulation
by arterio-venous anastomosis come in for lucid and detailed
description. We note the author's preference for lateral
anastomosis, a procedure which he supports by good reasoning.

A chapter on varicose veins, which seems to be comparatively
of minor importance, follows, and the concluding pages are
devoted to aneurysms. Following on a description of treatment
of aneurysms is a revue of the results of operation by different
methods on aneurysms of the large arterial trunks. This
chapter is freely furnished with statistical tables, and these
with the comments thereon are of great interest and value.

The volume is most interesting, and it cannot fail to help
those engaged in or about to take up blood-vessel surgery. The
descriptions throughout are simple and easily comprehended.
The illustrations are numerous and well executed.

Modern Problems in Psychiatry. By Ernesto Lugaro.
Translated by David Orr, M.D., and R. G. Rows, M.D.
With a Foreword by Sir T. S. Clouston, M.D., LL.D.
Second Edition. Manchester: At the University Press. 1913.

This is in every way a most admirable translation of a
remarkable work by "one of the master spirits of biological
science, who, while knowing and using the details and facts of
his subject, is not content with a narrow and technical view of
it, but has pressed into its elucidation all the correlated sciences
of anatomy, physiology, biology, and psychology. Lugaro
seems to me," proceeds Sir T. S. Clouston in his highly
instructive and eulogistic foreword, "to have been able to set
the whole problem of psychiatry before his mind, to have
realised its extraordinary difficulties, and to have pointed out
future lines of research more clearly and fully than almost any
of our modern authors. He combines caution with scientific
enthusiasm. . . . He is reliable and practical, while
retaining the subtle mental qualities of his race. . . . One
cannot read the book without receiving an overpowering
impression of the author's love of truth and of his intense
craving to get nearer to solid ground in the abstruse questions
with which psychiatry abounds."
“We Britons,” concludes Sir Thomas, “needed such a clear, logical, and illuminating treatise. Even its abundant theorising will stimulate us to think. It is wider in its scope and more philosophical in its methods of treating the subject than any book of our own. In short, it exhibits more of the scientific spirit. All our alienists and most of our physicians will do well to peruse it.”

**Mental Diseases: A Text-book of Psychiatry for Medical Students and Practitioners.** By R. H. Cole, M.D., M.R.C.P. London: Hodder & Stoughton. 1913.

It has been the author’s aim in this volume concisely to delineate the general features of psychiatry in such a manner that the subject may appeal to the student and general practitioner rather than to the specialist. He therefore prefixes to his account of abnormal mentation an analytic description of the normal processes of mind, from which he proceeds to discuss the general diagnosis and etiology of insanity, and afterwards describes its various clinical forms. Their relation to general diseases is then considered, and a chapter on the pathology of insanity follows. The next chapter is devoted to the subject of prognosis, then comes a chapter on the legal relations of insanity, and, lastly, a chapter on general treatment. The order in which the subjects are handled is thus a little promiscuous, and it is difficult to see the justification for interpolating a consideration of legal considerations between the subjects of prognosis and treatment. That part of the book which deals with the special forms of insanity is undoubtedly the best; the descriptions are clear and they are emphasised by excellent illustrations. The section devoted to normal mental processes borders, of course, upon the domain of philosophy, but is hardly sufficiently philosophical to help the student very far in his endeavour to comprehend the human mind. The remarks upon general diagnosis are too brief, and rather suggest notes for a chapter on the subject than the completed chapter. Taken as a whole, the book, while conveying in a limited compass a fair and temperate statement of the forms of insanity, yet fails to leave any very arresting picture of them upon the mind’s eye.