to the defects of sight, cataract, mydriasis, myopy, presbyopy, amaurotic affections, and defects depending on loss of correspondence of the sensations and movements of the two eyes.

The third part, which comprises two chapters, is devoted to the prevention and management of morbid states of the eyes affecting different periods of life, and to the preservation of the eyes in certain general diseases. We have perused the work with interest, and have no doubt, from its practical utility, that it will find a good reception with the public. At the same time, we would suggest that the remarks on the methods of operating in cataract are not adapted to the general objects of the book; while other parts, especially the observations on colour-blindness, might very suitably receive further extension.

**Art. XI.**—*Die Cholera in der Schweiz.* Von Hermann Lebert, Professor d. Med. Klinik in Zurich. — Frankfurt-am-Main, 1856. pp. 93.

*The Cholera in Switzerland.* By Hermann Lebert. 1856.

Lebert, the well-known micropotist, here presents himself to us in a field of research very different from that on which we are accustomed to meet him. He gives us the results of his observations in the epidemic of cholera in Zurich in the autumns of 1854 and 1855. In the first chapter we find a short account of the former epidemics of cholera in Switzerland; he afterwards describes the manner in which the disease manifested itself in the town of Zurich, and then passes on to the principal part of the memoir, his own observations in the hospital of the canton. Here we meet first with his notes on the diarrhoea accompanying the epidemics of cholera, and particularly on that form which usually precedes the real attack; and has, by many pathologists, received the designation "premonitory." We are struck with the large proportion of cases in which it had been altogether absent. As this is a *questio vexata,* we will introduce Lebert's own account:

"Among our 96 cases, it had been doubtless present in 45 cases—i.e., in 47 per cent. . . . 18 cases were doubtful. In some of them the prodromic diarrhoea had probably existed, but could not be proved with certainty; if we add, however, even these to the ascertained cases, we yet obtain scarcely two-thirds of the total number. The complete absence of the prodromic diarrhoea was demonstrated in 33 cases—i.e., in more than one-third of the whole.

"Concerning the relation of the diarrhoea to the fatal cases, and to those ending in convalescence, the following table shows:

| Among the 45 fatal cases, | Among the 51 terminating in convalescence, |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| It was ascertained in .20, or 44 per cent. | . in 25, or 49 per cent. |
| It was doubtful in .13, " 29 " | . in 5, " 10 " |
| It had been absent in .12, " 27 " | . in 21, " 41 " |

(p. 25.)

The duration of the prodromic diarrhoea varied from one day to three weeks; it was not found shorter in the fatal cases than in those who recovered.

The *cholera nostras*—or, as we should term it, sporadic or English cholera (cholerine)—is considered as essentially identical with Asiatic
cholera, but only as a milder form of it. It was still more rarely preceded by diarrhoea than the severer form.

We forbear entering into the description of the various symptoms; we can, however, not omit mentioning Lebert's notes on the secretion of urine. The continuance of the secretion during the whole attack has been observed six times among the ninety-six cases; but also in these the quantity was considerably diminished, and albumen was always admixed. In some of the remaining cases the suppression of the urine ceased after the lapse of forty-eight hours, in others only after four or six days; on the average, however, urine was passed for the first time in the course of the third or in the beginning of the fourth day. Not more than once the urine first discharged was found free from albumen. The further examination of the urine by Messrs. Lehmann and Volk, of Zurich, showed the chloride of sodium and the urea to be considerably diminished during the first days after the suppression of the urine; that their amount afterwards becomes increased beyond the average, as is the case with the total quantity of the urine before it returns to the normal medium. Thus we find, in one of the cases, that the quantity of urine (twenty-four hours) fluctuated from the third to the sixth day between 405 and 470 cubic centimetres; that it rose on the seventh to 2879 cubic centimetres, and averaged on the following days nearly 1500 cubic centimetres; specific gravity, between 1006 and 1014; chloride of sodium, from the third to the sixth day, between 0·3272 and 0·9494 grammes; on the seventh, 7·7215 grammes; on the eighth, 5·5398 grammes; on the third to sixth day, 6·266 to 7·094 grammes; on the seventh, 60·594 grammes; on the eighth, 40 grammes. These figures are the more valuable as they agree with those obtained by Professor Buhl of Munich.

The cholera rash was observed only three times, and in each of these cases towards the end of the first week; two of them terminated in convalescence, one fatally.

Regarding the age of the patients, the largest number were between thirty-six and forty-five years old. The proportion of fatal cases was largest after the sixtieth year.

For the author's remarks regarding the pathological anatomy of the disease, and the treatment adopted, we refer to the essay itself, which may be perused with pleasure and advantage. The various chapters are elucidated by a series of cases. The whole is written in an easy style, containing scarcely any references to other authors, which may be partly attributed to the circumstance that Lebert wrote it away from his usual haunts, in the delightful little town Bex, in Switzerland.

**ANT. XII.—The Change of Life in Health and Disease.** By Edward Tilt, M.D. Second Edition.—London, 1857. pp. 307.

We have much pleasure in introducing to our readers a second edition of Dr. Tilt's work, because we believe that much ignorance on the part of the public, and no little negligence on that of our profession, have