six months I have had the medical charge of a small detachment (28 men) of English marines, and I have been struck with the comparative readiness with which chancrea and gonorrhæa are cured in them, compared with the time and difficulty experienced in obtaining the same result in sailors belonging to the merchant service and the lower classes. This is due quite as much, I think, to the absolute cleanliness, which in the former class it is easy to enforce, as to the fact that in them the disease is early detected and the patient confined to hospital. I make this remark, because I believe in private practice, amongst a class of patients where one seldom doubts that cleanliness will be observed, it is far from universal. To an ounce of the ordinary sulphate of zinc lotion or injection, the addition of one half grain of the permanganate of potass I have found very useful in the treatment of most gonorrhæas.

Sailors coming from the south of China suffering from ague often enter this port; but as I have nothing particular to say of this disease, except that it is invariably cured here—a consummation I believe due more to the climate than the treatment, which is that generally pursued—I bring these desultory notes to a close.

---

**Part Second.**

**REVIEWS.**

*A Physician's Problems.* By Charles Elam, M.D., M.R.C.P.

London: Macmillan & Co.: 1869. 8vo, pp. 424.

The problems detailed in this work do not belong to physic proper, but are such as are forced upon the attention of every one who thinks and reflects at all upon the history and destiny of mankind; they are not, therefore, specially "a physician's problems," though unquestionably they are more apt to be pondered over by a true physician than by others, because his study—"the noblest study of mankind"—is man in all his relations, mental and bodily. Each of these essays is complete in itself, and yet they form together a connected series, tracing the influence of various agents upon his mental and bodily health. Quite recently Dr Elam published a series of very sensational papers in a contemporary, entitled "Medicine, Disease, and Death," in which, by statistical and other arguments, he endeavoured to show that we are systematically swindling our insurance offices by insuring at rates only applicable to the good old times of thirty odd years ago, when mercury and the lancet were triumphant, but very insufficient for these present days, when, from the increasing degeneracy of our race, and the inefficacy of our
physicians, the death-rate is annually increasing. Something, perhaps, may be made out of this argument in favour of those offices which have been so unfortunate as to fall victims to their miscalculations; the survivors, at any rate, ought to take heed in time. We merely mention these peculiar views, unquestionably based upon erroneous statistics, as a reason for desiring further proof of the certainly equally extraordinary statement, made with the utmost assurance at page 272, that, with "very few exceptions," all the six or eight upper wranglers for the last twenty years, and nearly all the double-first men, are still alive and well; while of two boats' crews of picked men, selected within the last few years, not one is now alive. The frightful mortality amongst boating-men thus hinted at is really dreadful to think of, and it would require a little more careful substantiation than Dr Elam has given it to enable us to accept it as efficiently illustrative of the antithetical character of brain-work versus body-work; of the conservative character of the former, the destructive character of the latter. A great deal of nonsense has been both talked and written on this point of late years, just as there has been in regard to man's food and drink. Man was formed to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow, and an undue neglect of exercise sufficient to duly promote the requisite tissue metamorphosis will be punished by increasing inability to use the limbs neglected, as well as by various forms of disease induced by so glaring an infraction of one of the most important of those laws upon which health depends. Notwithstanding the fancied conservative tendency of brain-work, it alone is as incapable of producing a perfect man as vegetarianism or teetotalism, in regard to which we may remember that it was as a punishment for his sins that Nebuchadnezzar was condemned to "eat grass as oxen," and under that regimen he very soon shuffled off every appearance of humanity; and we may also remember that it was Noah, a just man and perfect in his generations, who first "planted a vineyard, and drank of the wine thereof," and was in consequence drunken upon one occasion, as we are informed. The same propensity for the flesh-pots and slow poisons has distinguished all his posterity, and we may well believe that a great deal less harm results from them than some are desirous of making us believe; for though

"Gross riot treasures up a wealthy fund
Of plagues, yet more immedicable ills
Attend the lean extreme."

It is a most absurd and untenable doctrine to credit the lives of the senior wranglers to their brain-work, and the deaths of the boating-men to their training, even supposing the facts to be as Dr Elam states them. But it is also obvious, that in a matter which has so important a bearing upon the intellectual and material progress of mankind, no man's ipse dixit can be implicitly accepted; its value must first be ascertained by a careful sifting of all the facts upon which it is based; and they must therefore be so fully particularized
as to enable us to view them from every point, and test their value in every respect. On the whole, we esteem our author's conclusions as more valuable than his facts; at least, without accepting all of them, we may acknowledge our concurrence in the conviction, that though wet towels and green-tea may have caused the death of many a one besides Kirke White, brain-work proper is no more to be blamed for these sad disasters than body-work is to be for those which follow the sudden spurt daringly attempted by some unprepared athlete. Brain-work can, however, only be regarded in so far conservative of the bodily forces as the intellectual man, as a rule, maintains his body in greater subjection than the athlete, who too often alternates periods of vigorous abstinence with others of riotous excess. But to give an undue preponderance to brain-work or to body-work is alike subversive of humanity. In the one case, we have a Neander wallowing among his books, forgetful both of time and place, led by his sister to his lecture-room when the time arrived, and led home again when his lecture was over—a helpless intellectual imbecile, a pig fed to obesity upon recondite learning instead of acorns; in the other, we have a mere man-monkey like Blondin.

Man's body is given him for the development of his mind; in this world we have no knowledge of mind apart from material organization. If the organization be originally defective, or should it in any way acquire an unhealthy tone, the mind suffers with it; the limits of deviation are considerable, and, from the absence of any definite standard, are incapable of being rigidly laid down; but experience has taught us by innumerable heart-breaking instances, that a corpus sanum is indispensable to the possession of a mens sana. The laws of physiology, however, also teach us that a sound body is only to be attained by a proper attention to the laws of health, and a correct and relative apportioning of brain-work to muscle-work. To keep both body and mind in health each must be duly, and neither unduly, exercised. The one form of work is not truly conservative, the other not truly destructive; both may be made conservative, properly employed; both may be made destructive by improper use. We must also never forget that, besides intellect and muscle, we have also religious sentiments, which must be cultivated, if we would be true men; the neglect of these through over-devotion to intellectual pursuits, or from any other cause, may be fearfully avenged. To take but one instance: had the illustrious author of the "Old Red Sandstone," when he wrote those memorable words, "My brain is burning—I can bear life no longer!" only called to mind the words which have been beautifully paraphrased—

"Art thou languid, art thou weary,
Art thou sore distressed,
'Come to me, 'saith One, 'and coming be at rest'"—

how different might have been his ending. Goethe, in arresting
the suicide of Faust by the sudden outburst of the Easter hymn, recognises the important influence of the religious sentiments even where not very carefully cultivated; in the very aspect to which we have just referred. And every true writer does the same: some of them, with Emerson, may regard it as simply a falling back upon the infinite when we feel the finite crumbling beneath us; but vaguely or more definitely all recognise, besides brain and muscle, certain sentiments, if we may call them so, which must be cultivated, to enable man nobly to brave the changes and chances of this mortal life, and which, rightly developed, are a great safeguard in this very question of brain versus muscle. In this essay the author is also careful to point out the misery and heart-sickness of deferred hope arising from men or women either devoting their lives to some trade or profession for which they have a great love, but neither mental capacity nor bodily skill sufficient for its proper carrying out. He refers chiefly to what are called the fine arts; but his remarks might be made to apply with tenfold force to our own profession—one too often adopted for any reason but the right one, and into the now open portals of which it is to be feared many women may be rushing, impelled by vague dreams of benefiting humanity, which they will find to be either impracticable, or impossible of realization by their means. Much of the trading spirit which is to be found in the profession arises from this very cause—the admission of those mentally unfit for its exercise. Singular to say, a brain defective on many points may be well qualified for accumulating wealth, but something more than that is requisite to make a truly useful physician.

In the first essay upon "Natural Heritage," a great many singular instances are given of the direct inheritance, both of physical conformation and of moral qualities, but no reference is made to that very singular and indirect mode of inheritance accounted for by the inoculative influence exerted by the fetus in utero upon the maternal organism. It is questionable, or at least has not been ascertained, whether moral qualities can be so conveyed; but as these so often depend upon physical conformation, which is known to be thus influenced, we may believe that both body and mind may be thus altered. The facts regarding this peculiar inoculation have been very ably illustrated in our pages by Dr Alexander Harvey of Aberdeen, and have been abundantly confirmed by other observers. From them it appears that children so inoculate a mother with the peculiarities of their father, that even the children of a succeeding marriage receive the impress; nay, even a child begotten out of an originally and still apparently healthy mother by a perfectly healthy father, may yet inherit the defects and diseases, and possibly the moral qualities, of a preceding spouse,—a state of matters which, when fully understood, ought to make a good many converts to Sam Weller's opinion as to widows. Our author quotes approvingly Holmes's (O. W.) statement that "There are people who
think that everything may be done, if the doer, be he educator or physician, be only called in season. No doubt,—but in season would often be a hundred or two years before the child was born; and people never send so early as that.” But, in applying this, we think that, for a physician, he exhibits himself as more of a morbid anatomi
tist than a therapeutist, and that, besides pointing out the defects and shortcomings of our forefathers, he might have very properly occupied some little space in teaching us our duties in relation to our descendants. He certainly does not consider past wrongs any palliation of present defects, and holds that, notwithstanding a very considerable heritage of evil, all are morally responsible, and all have it in their power to overcome the evil within them. “Life,” he says, “to all is a warfare; to some it is much more severe than to others; but all may fight the good fight, and all may attain the reward.” This is all very proper, but it is hardly enough for one who believes so strongly in natural heritage, and who dubs himself a physician. Ulloa, Tavis, and others, state that three or four generations are sufficient, when proper attention is paid, to make a white man black, or a negro white, and M. Serres distinctly asserts that a proper system of intermarriage will cause a degenerate race to return to the normal type. To marry for rank or wealth, even at the risk of almost certain impairment of the race, is a matter of daily occurrence, but how much less noble than to marry for health, which rank cannot bestow, nor wealth purchase. It is regarded as an object of legitimate ambition to marry for money to replace an ancient family in what is conventionally regarded as their proper position in the world. Ought it to be less an object of ambition to seek, by an infusion of healthy blood, to restore to a decaying family the health they have lost? The latter is surely the nobler and least selfish object. It is too late to reproach our ancestors of three cen
turies back; but it is not too late to do our part to avert the conse-
quences of these old mistakes from our descendants; and it is more like a true physician to point out the remedy, and to show how it may be best applied, rather than pour forth an idle lamentation over evils already incurred, which it is our duty to overcome by endur-
ance, or, still better, to remove by art if that be possible. There are five other essays upon similar subjects, all of them displaying a very considerable amount of information, and all written in an extremely pleasing and readable manner—perhaps we might say, all a little deficient in the practical application. And, besides these, we have two learned papers—one upon the Daemon of Socrates, and the other upon the Amulet of Pascal, in which the author disproves the idea that Socrates was, as M. Lélut has more tersely than deli-
cately put it, un fou; while he gives very strong reasons for believing that if Pascal was not, he was at least certainly influenced by delu-
sions. The essays are extremely interesting, and form an agreeable interlude to more strictly professional studies; and we cordially recommend them to all who have the welfare of mankind at heart.
Scarlet Fever, otherwise called Scarlatina, and its Prevention. By Frederick Smith, Esq. H. Cross: Malvern, 1869. Pp. 16.

This pamphlet has been called forth by local circumstances, but it contains many points of great general importance. Every now and then schools are thinned, families decimated, sometimes wholly swept away, by an outbreak of scarlet fever; while we have occasionally to mourn, from the same cause, the loss of some adult life just bursting into full blossom or already ripening its fruit. Yet how little care is taken to prevent the spread of a disease so dangerous and yet apparently so limitable. The manner in which one half of the world scouts at all precautions, almost to our mind justifies the superstitious terror with which the other half clings to everything that holds out even the slightest pretensions to being a preventive. Mr Smith, in this little pamphlet, concisely points out the duty of parents and guardians, the duty of nurses and of local authorities, and concludes with some practical suggestions to schoolmasters and others, with the view of preventing the spread of scarlatina. These suggestions are based, at least mainly, upon Dr Budd’s plan of disinfection; but the author runs over various other assistant plans, and has produced a very readable pamphlet, the matter of which is very well known to the profession, but which we do not remember to have met with in a form so accessible and so easily understood by the general public. On their behalf, therefore, we welcome its appearance. It is just such a book as may be put with great benefit into the hands of an intelligent parent, on an outbreak of such a disease being threatened in his neighbourhood; and all schoolmasters ought to make themselves acquainted with the suggestions laid down in it, which are not impracticable, and which must produce a limitation of the disease. The great object of practical medicine is to limit the spread of disease, and one great object of such exertion—one which seems quite within the range even of our present powers—is the limitation and prevention of these zymotic diseases which carry off such hecatombs of our children, and impoverish the State by cutting down so many young adult heads of families, for these are mainly their victims. We trust, therefore, that the endeavour to spread correct knowledge upon this matter amongst the non-professional public, of which this little pamphlet is an instance, will receive that encouragement which the importance of its subject demands.
Clinical Notes on Diseases of the Larynx; investigated and treated with the Assistance of the Laryngoscope. By William Marcet, M.D., F.R.S., etc.

We have perused Dr Marcet's little volume with very considerable satisfaction. Within a comparatively small number of pages it contains a great deal of useful information. The author shows that he has not neglected the many opportunities presented to him of using the laryngoscope in the cases of patients who seek relief at the consumption hospital, and as the result of his experience he expresses his opinion on the subject of disease attacking the larynx distinctly and forcibly.

After some preliminary remarks, the work is divided into three parts. The first treats of laryngitis simplex, with a short list added thereto of the more useful instruments required in examining the larynx and treating its diseases. The second treats of hysterical and nervous aphonia, and the third of the tubercular affections of the same part.

Dr Marcet does not waste time in describing how the examination of this portion of the body is to be made, but truly states in his preliminary remarks that "the acquirement of skill in the art of laryngoscopy is the natural result of diligent perseverance in the use of the instrument, directed with intelligence." And again, "it is not so much by reading of the difficulties to be met with, and how they are overcome, as by acquiring the habit of finding out practically where the fault lies, that the present art is to be mastered."

The author had the good fortune of being allowed to examine the larynx of one of the famous Tyrolese singers who recently sang at St James's Hall, London, and has given his opinion on the position of the vocal chords in falsetto singing, which he saw "to be considerably shortened, and their edges tightly applied against each other," and he thinks "falsetto singing must be due to the action of the arytenoideus muscle, which, contracting more powerfully than usual, brings the arytenoid cartilages into mutual contact."

Among the several cases related is a very interesting one of aphasia, in a man, æt. 34, which came on after a "fit," he being quite well, with intellect and memory unimpaired, previous to the attack. Dr Marcet tried galvanism, with Smee's battery and an interrupted induction current, the negative electrode being placed on the back of the tongue and the positive on the nape of the neck," and found the case to improve greatly under the treatment—so much so, that the patient's speech recovered to a sufficient extent to allow of his making himself understood, having been previously quite unable to articulate.

Part third, or that on laryngeal phthisis, is the most important portion of the work, and will repay perusal.

As an aid to the diagnosis of some doubtful cases of phthisis, a
laryngoscopic examination is very important, as the author states, "If, in addition to the doubtful pulmonary symptoms as determined by auscultation and percussion, we find a certain degree of congestion, redness, or irritation of the larynx, together with the secretion of a whitish, mucous, and perhaps incipient tubercular granulation; these signs, which are only visible with the laryngoscope, will greatly assist towards forming a diagnosis;" and if the throat symptoms have lasted for some length of time, their meaning is unmistakable.

Tubercular disease of the larynx he divides into three different forms, running their course individually without, as a rule, merging into each other: the first, the thickened, indurated form, which may end with softening; the second, the ulcerated form; and the third, which is characterized by vegetation.

Unfortunately, in this disease, as in many others, as yet our powers of diagnosis exceed those of successful treatment, but still we have here pointed out the method by which we may mitigate our patient's suffering—a matter of great importance. We are correctly told that our treatment should be directed principally to the general condition of the body—tonics, preparations of iron, phosphoric acid, and cod-liver oil, being the chief means to be employed. At the same time, topical medication should not be neglected; and we can corroborate Dr Marcet's statement, that the application of croton-oil liniment over the larynx externally, is often followed by relief and improvement.

A good many cases are related in full under their respective heads, and a few good illustrations, coloured or not, are interspersed among the pages of the work.

---

*Essentials of the Principles and Practice of Medicine. A Handy Book for Students and Practitioners.* By Henry Hartshorne, M.D., Professor of Hygiene in the University of Pennsylvania, etc., etc. Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea: 1867. 8vo, pp. 417.

To quote from the preface—"This manual is an unambitious effort to make useful the experience of twenty years of private and hospital practice, with its attendant study and reflection." To this is added: "Whatever defects the book may have, the author does not concede that it is necessarily a fault that it is small." Now, there can be no doubt that the longer a man has been about a thing, and the more accurate the knowledge of it he possesses, so much the more likely is he to be able to describe the facts concerning it tersely, and in the fewest possible words; in this way the smallness of a book may be an index of one of its greatest merits. When smallness is, however, attained, not so much by conciseness and terseness of description as by the omission of necessary par-
ticulars, then it is no longer an indication of merit, but of the reverse. And while this is the case with all books which profess to convey information, it applies with tenfold force to such as are intended for the instruction of students. Surely, never before was it attempted to produce a complete history of medical science, a treatise on general pathology, on practice of medicine, and on therapeutics, all within the space of no more than 417 pages. And it is considerably to the credit of Dr Hartshorne that, under these circumstances, he has produced a work which is so readable, and on the whole so accurate. For the student, whether tyro or advanced, it is, however, quite unsuited, from the meagreness of the description of the various diseases; from the imperfection of the differential diagnosis; and from the harsh baldness of the therapeutical portion, which too often consists of but a string of names. On the other hand, the busy practitioner already intimately acquainted with the subject may find in its pages the names of remedies, or hints as to points of interest which had escaped his memory; and to him, therefore, it may at times prove indeed a handy book. To justify what we have stated, after going over the book carefully, we again turn to it, and opening it at random, we read at page 135, that Laryngismus stridulus is "an infantile affection, consisting in spasmodic closure of the glottis, causing a stridulous or shrill whistling respiration. It is most apt to occur during dentition, but is not very common. Its onset is sudden, and duration brief. Though exceedingly alarming, it is seldom fatal;" and that is all, the paragraph on the treatment being equally brief and dogmatic, and not more correct. Opening the book again at page 319, we read as to the differential diagnosis between gout and rheumatism: "In gout, the small joints are chiefly affected; in rheumatism, the large joints. Repetition of attacks is much more frequent in gout; their duration is greater in rheumatism. In gout, the heart is seldom attacked, and spasmodically; in rheumatism, the heart is often subject to inflammation. In gout, the stomach is sometimes spasmodically affected with violent symptoms; in rheumatism, almost never, although the bowels may be. In gout, and not in rheumatism, uric acid (or urate of soda) is in excess in the blood. In pure gout, colchicium generally does good; in pure rheumatism, hardly ever." All these are points of interest, and to be remembered, but none of them of any primary importance in making a differential diagnosis in an acute attack of either disease, except the uric acid test, which we are not told how to apply, and which is not so readily available as certain symptoms perceptible at a glance, such as the great amount of constitutional disturbance in proportion to the local affection, and the copious perspiration with its usual acrid odour, both of which are so diagnostic of rheumatism as to render it unnecessary to ascertain the absence of uric acid from the serum of the blood, while their absence, though not so certainly characteristic of gout, yet leads us at once to look for other symptoms of that disease, among which the presence of
uric acid in the blood is the most distinctive. These quotations taken at random, forming, however, fair samples of the work, seem quite sufficient to justify the opinion we have already expressed.

A Dictionary of Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By Adolph Wahltuch, M.D., L.C.P. Lond. London: John Churchill & Sons: 1868. Pp. 484.

This work contains in parallel columns the following information in regard to the drugs specified in the British Pharmacopœia of 1867:—1st, The names and various synonyms of the drugs in Latin, English, French, Italian, German, and Russian; 2d, Their character and properties or composition; 3d, Their physiological effects and therapeutics; 4th, The forms and doses of the various preparations, with information as to the mode of administration, both as to the older forms of pill and powder, and the newer ones of atomized spray and hypodermic injections; 5th, The various preparations into which each drug enters; and, 6th, Over a thousand prescriptions selected from the formulas of the most eminent British and foreign physicians, with the name of the disease for which they have been employed. The work is well supplied with indices, tables for regulating the doses as to the age according to Hufeland, Gaubios, and Young, and is a complete compendium of readily available information in relation to all the drugs mentioned in the British Pharmacopœia of 1867. It is solely a work of reference, and as such seems well calculated to be useful in saving the time of the profession, besides being extremely useful to those who may be reading foreign works of medicine, or to druggists and others who may have to interpret foreign prescriptions. The author seems to have done his work with diligence and care, and we hope he will receive sufficient encouragement to induce him to favour us with the future volume he has, in such a case, promised us in regard to the non-officinal drugs, some of which are of very great importance—mineral waters, poisons, and dietetics—as this could not fail to add very considerably to the value of his labours.

Medicine in Modern Times; or, Discourses delivered at a Meeting of the British Medical Association at Oxford. By Dr Stokes, Dr Acland, Professor Rolleston, Rev. Professor Haughton, and Dr Gull; with a Report on Mercury, by Dr Hughes Bennett. London: McMillan & Co.: 1869. Pp. 255.

This work contains a series of most interesting addresses delivered in August last year at Oxford before the members of the British Medi-
cal Association and their visitors from foreign countries. These essays are very instructive as to the lines in which modern medical thought is advancing; and for those who can look back, however faintly, even one quarter of a century, the retrospect is extremely encouraging as to the future of our science. Popular though to a certain extent these essays are, there is not one of them that does not display a precision of statement and a breadth and comprehensiveness of thought which cannot fail to be duly appreciated, and which is specially refreshing as coming from Oxford, where, though science has been nominally taught for more than seven centuries, it is only within the last few years that that term has been understood to include more than logic, metaphysics, and ethics; and where even yet an attempt is made to distinguish between mental and physical science, by nominally connecting the former alone with philosophy, the latter alone with science—as if philosophy did not comprise both subjects, as if both subjects must not first be objects of science before they can become branches of philosophy. It is somewhat singular that Scotchmen should never have a doubt about this, and talk of natural or physical and mental philosophy, and natural and mental science, without the slightest misgiving as to their being branches of one philosophy, which require to be united to make a perfect whole,—distinct segments, which require to be fitted-in to make a perfect circle of the sciences. And yet Scotchmen have no proper idea of a University as a place, as Mr Mill has put it, solely intended for the formation of capable and cultivated human beings, apart from the idea of its being a place for professional education. To prove this, it is not necessary to give special examples—the fact is only too well known—and to a certain extent it exercises an injurious influence upon the progress of science in our part of Britain, examples of which it is equally unnecessary to specify. It is all the more honourable to Scotchmen that, with their limited experience of University teaching, they should yet have such broad and comprehensive ideas of what ought to be its subject—ideas which, in all their breadth, even Oxford, after nearly a thousand years of University life, is only now beginning to entertain. In his valedictory address, Dr Stokes, the retiring president, has incidentally touched upon a subject of very considerable importance to our profession, and has put it in such a way as to bring it home to each one of us. It is well known that, as a profession, we have sundry grievances, and that after long and wearisome agitation we obtained a Medical Act, which was to remove these, and a General Medical Council to superintend the working of that Act. It is equally well known that both Act and Council have failed to remedy these grievances, and that a fresh agitation is even now commenced to amend them both. The history of the past is, however, a warning to us not to trust to future legislation. What ought we, then, to do to place medicine in its true position, and secure for it its due weight in the Councils of our country? We ought not, certainly,
to work, says Dr Stokes (and we agree with him), by public agitation, by remonstrances addressed to unwilling ears, by urgent demands for class legislation, nor, in short, by calling ever so loudly on our legislative Jupiter, but, by putting our own shoulder to the wheel, by one and all endeavouring to place medicine in the hierarchy of the sciences, in the vanguard of human progress, eliminating from it every influence that can lower it, day by day developing more and more the professional principle, and fostering all that can elevate its moral, literary, and scientific character. When this shall have become our rule of action, the full tide of public esteem and respect will surely lift the profession high over these obstacles against which it now grinds and chases. In this way only can we safely gain the ends we aim at, and for this object each one amongst us can labour in his own sphere with single-hearted energy and zeal, while our united action should be directed towards widening the basis upon which medicine is reared, by extending the preliminary general training of those minds who seek to join our philanthropic labours. For it is only in proportion as we impress upon them the love of knowledge and of truth for their own sakes, the greatness of man’s needs, and the corresponding greatness of our duties, with a just sense of the limited nature of our own powers, and the short period during which we can exercise them, that we shall imbue them with that deeply-moving sense of the great importance of the profession they have adopted, which is certain to secure the objects we aim at, and which is too often frittered away and altogether lost in a special education, however full, which is too often regarded as a mere trade speculation.

Dr Acland’s essay on the General Relations of Medicine in Modern Times is both thoughtful and philosophic; he reviews these relations in regard to the progress of science and the fluctuations of humanity, touching, cursorily of course, upon the various points of science which affect us more or less closely, and the intimate connexion which subsists between medicine and the sufferings and sorrows, both physical and mental, of mankind. Tempting though the whole subject is, we must pass it by, only shortly referring to one of the relations of modern medicine to which Dr Acland has referred, the relation to spiritual beliefs. And we refer to it specially, because it is a difficult subject, one which an over-prudent man would pass by through fear of entangling himself in that maze of angry—and we may add unlearned—controversy which fills the world. Yet it is a subject which cannot be avoided, and Dr Acland has handled it in a singularly delicate, yet masterly manner. He shows that the reproach of the old aphorism, “Ubi tres medici, ibi duo athei,” lives still, but that it does not arise because medical men are less religious than the average of the society in which they live, but because they rarely mingle with the religious questions of the day, almost never are fanatical, and rarely even enthusiastic in their religion. Calm, earnest men, they stand aloof from religious dis-
cussion, partly from self-interest, partly from usage, but partly also for a deeper reason, which, as Dr Acland says, religious teachers would do well to lay to heart. It is this, that to none is revealed so much of the real nature of man, its various phenomena, conditions, pains, and privileges. The physician can trace the various bodily and mental relations of man to other organized forms; he sees the connexion subsisting between organic structure and mental function, and the modifying influence exerted on both by hereditary or acquired disease, as well as by all the various circumstances of race or position in life, as modified by want or luxury. He who knows all this, and much more, which forms part of a physician's daily experience, can never be either a bigot or a fanatic; he may hold fast his own belief amid many trying circumstances, but he will be the last man to condemn others for thinking differently; and though his soul may yearn over a fellow-man calmly listening to the measured tread of death's approaching footsteps, doubtful whether to him he brings annihilation or what else, yet he knows that there are better modes of gaining even him than by throwing on his comrade's deathbed the apple of religious discord.

It would take up too much space to go over the many very interesting points contained in the other essays, which are all worthy of their authors, and of the occasion upon which they were delivered. Where all are so good, it seems invidious to particularize one; but Professor Haughton takes up so novel a subject, and handles it in so interesting a manner, as to make it specially interesting; and yet we have an objection to urge to one part of it. In describing the peculiarities of typhus, in the note at p. 142, he says that the risk to life in typhus is directly proportioned to the rise of temperature, and also, "The effects of alcohol, administered in fever, when the temperature does not exceed 105° F., are twofold—immediate and secondary. The immediate effect is to supply a hydrocarbon to the blood, which is decomposed by it in preference to the body-tissues. The secondary effect of alcohol is to change the blood itself, which thus loses its oxidizing qualities; in consequence of which the temperature falls, the hyperdicrotic character of the pulse disappears, and the destructive metamorphose of the tissues becomes lessened." This theory of the action of alcohol in typhus, which Professor Haughton states is borne out by clinical experience, is one which would lead to the adoption of the administration of alcohol as a cure for typhus—a doctrine utterly opposed to all our best modern experience. Nowhere has a smaller mortality in typhus been secured, and nowhere has there been a smaller expenditure of alcohol in its treatment, than in the Glasgow Fever Hospital; and this experience is not confined to that hospital alone: in the Glasgow Infirmary, and in the Edinburgh one also, alcoholic stimulants are not regarded as necessary or even useful adjuvants, except under certain circumstances, in the treatment of typhus. One great result obtained from these new views has been
a very much lessened expense in the treatment of fever, a much less complicated and purer type of fever, which seems to run its course in a shorter time, and to have a smaller mortality. These are, however, points not yet definitely settled. But we have this peculiarity frequently exhibited, that a falling temperature is raised by the administration of alcohol; and it is in such cases that the benefits derived from alcohol are most strikingly shown, many patients being under such circumstances snatched from the jaws of death; in them the falling temperature is conjoined with a pulse failing in strength, but rising in rapidity; and the rise in temperature induced by the alcohol coincides with a fall in the pulse, and an increase in its strength. True or not true, Professor Haughton's theory of the action of alcohol in typhus is not a trustworthy guide to treatment; alcohol is in no respect an antidote to typhus, and its chemical actions are of no therapeutic value, except in so far as they contribute to its stimulant, and perhaps to its nutritive action also; which last, however, holds but a very subordinate place. The last paper of all by Dr Hughes Bennett, on the Action of Mercury on the Biliary Secretion, is a very important one. It is true, it upsets all our preconceived ideas as to the action of mercury on the liver, and is diametrically opposed to the experience of most of us in regard to its practical use where the bile seems to be defective. But it opens up entirely new views as to the action of a most important remedy, and gives a novel explanation of the relief obtained from its use in certain cases. In thus altering our views of the mode of relief in these cases, it reveals the possibility of obtaining similar results by other and less treacherous remedies; and one result of proving that our so-called cholagogue remedies do not act in that way, may be to introduce into practice a new set of remedies, which may give the same relief without the same pretensions, and, if we take mercury as the type, without the same risks—risks by no means proportionate to the dose, and which in certain constitutions are actually poisonous.

A Text-Book of Practical Medicine, with particular reference to Physiology and Pathological Anatomy. By Dr Felix von Niemeyer. Translated from the Seventh German Edition, by permission of the Author, by George H. Humphreys, M.D., and Charles E. Hackley, M.D. New York: D. Appleton & Co. London: Trübner & Co.

Niemeyer's Practical Medicine has been for some years the popular text-book in Germany. It occupies at the Medical Schools, and with young practitioners, the same place that in our own country is filled by the similar treatises of Watson, Aitken, Tanner, and Flint. In ten years, the German work has passed through seven large editions, and it has been translated into most Conti-
mental languages. It is satisfactory to add, that this popularity is merited. Like all text-books, Niemeyer's is of course mainly a compilation; but it is a compilation thoroughly well done, and it is something more. The author is an accomplished pathologist and practical physician. He is not only capable of appreciating the new discoveries (perhaps indeed rather partial to them), which during these ten years have been unusually numerous and important in scientific and practical medicine; but by his clinical experience he can put these new views to a practical test, and give a judgment regarding them. His book consequently has an individual authority which gives both a greater interest and uniformity to the manner in which the subjects are treated, and adds weight to the opinions which he advances or advocates. Moreover, although strictly scientific in his modes of thought, and in his study of disease—founding his practical medicine on physiology and pathology—Niemeyer is not a sceptic in his therapeutics. He regards an enlightened empiricism as capable of being combined with, or indeed as properly resulting from, a scientific pathology, and a scrupulously accurate clinical observation. There can be no doubt that this practical tendency has made his book generally acceptable. We can therefore thoroughly recommend Niemeyer's work. In particular, it will be found of great use as a compendious exposition of the views, especially the more advanced views, which are at present held in Germany, in pathology and medicine.

The American translators have, on the whole, done their task well. We think the profession is greatly indebted to them for rendering accessible so useful a text-book. It is quite true that we already have excellent works of a like kind in our own country. But good text-books cannot yet be said to be too numerous. We regard it of great importance that the current views entertained in foreign countries should be widely diffused in our own. Text-books afford a ready means of doing so. We only wish that all the leading Continental works could find translators. It retards medical science when information is locked up in a foreign language. There would be less plagiarism, fewer disputes about priority, and more originality and real progress, if good translations were more common than they are.

It is unnecessary to notice the work at length; but we may, by way of example, direct the reader's attention to Niemeyer's views on Consumption and Tuberculosis, in regard to which, as is well known, he has adopted and powerfully advocated the pathological distinctions introduced by Virchow, which are at present, in connexion with the inoculation experiments, exciting special interest:

"Tuberculosis of the Lung.—The term pulmonary tuberculosis continues to be the expression most commonly used to signify consumption of the lungs, a proof that the majority of modern physicians and clinical teachers still adhere to the teachings of Laennec, and only recognise one form of pulmonary consumption, the tuberculous form. I have long contested this doctrine, and, upon various occasions, have declared, in direct contradiction to it,
that destruction of the pulmonary tissues, the establishment of cavities and consumption of the lung, are much more frequently a result of chronic inflammation than of tubercular deposit. And I hope that these views, of whose justness any one may easily satisfy himself who will only study the subject with calmness and without prejudice, will ultimately obtain general acceptance.

"The error into which Laennec and his disciples have fallen is not that they regard tubercle as a neoplasm, but that they look upon solidifications of the lung, due to entirely different causes, as products of tuberculosis. Even according to modern views tubercle still ranks among the pathological neoplasms, although, however, but one form, the military form, and one mode of origin, military tuberculosis, is recognised. It is one of the characteristics of tubercle, that it always appears in the form of small nodules, scarcely as large as a millet-seed, and that the individual nodules never grow into voluminous tumours. The larger so-called tuberculous nodules consist always of an aggregation of many small military tubercles. All the extensive indurations and enlargements formerly described as tuberculous infiltration, or as infiltrated tubercle, depend neither upon infiltration of the tissues with tubercular matter, nor upon diffuse development of tubercle, but upon morbid processes of a different nature.

"In the lungs it is more especially the residue of chronic inflammation which Laennec and his pupils have regarded as tubercular infiltration. The main source of their error was the idea that caseous metamorphosis, to which tubercle of long standing almost invariably is subjected, was a specific peculiarity of the disease, and that it might be regarded as a diagnostic mark, by which the tuberculous nature of a growth, wherein the process arose, might be determined. According to such views, the product of chronic pneumonia, which often appears in phthisical lungs independent of tubercle, was ascribable to tuberculosis, since, generally speaking, this inflammatory product at first is moist, transparent, and of a grayish-red colour, and, after a lapse of time, becomes transformed into dry, opaque, yellow, cheesy masses, and, subsequently, into a creamy or curdy, flocculent liquid ('tubercular' pus).

"But the point of view, from which caseous metamorphosis was considered a characteristic sign of tuberculosis, is obsolete. It is well established that not only tubercle, but many other formations with which it has nothing in common—such as old cancerous nodules, lymphatic glands enlarged by hyperplastic cell-growth, hemorrhagic infarctions, incapsulated collections of pus—may all undergo caseous metamorphosis, and the term tuberculization, which has been productive of great confusion, and against which I have long protested, has fallen into disuse.

"Although the consolidation and destruction of the pulmonary tissue in consumption is mainly a result of inflammation, yet the frequent coexistence in phthisical lungs of the products of chronic pneumonia and tubercle renders it improbable that the presence of the latter should be purely accidental, and suggests a causative connection between tubercle and the inflammatory lesions. According to the common opinion, this connexion is, that tuberculosis is the primary affection, to which the pneumonic process is secondary and dependent. It cannot be denied that this view is right in certain cases; in a great majority of instances, however, the converse is true—the tuberculosis supervening as a secondary process upon a pre-existing pneumonia. It is, indeed, rare for tubercles to form in a lung which does not contain products of chronic inflammation."

We need scarcely say that these views require further investigation; but, for years past, pathological inquiry has tended in that direction. Our readers will notice, that they are in some respects a return to the views of older pathologists.

In conclusion, we would refer to the chapter on Syphilis, in which the modern views of the duality of poisons is adopted:
"Of late years the study of syphilis has undergone a complete revolution, and the new doctrines have been adopted with remarkable readiness by almost all prominent writers upon the subject, even by those who a few years ago were their most zealous opponents. In previous editions of this work I have expressed a disbelief in the ancient views, according to which inoculation by one and the same poison at one time acts locally, and at another induces infection and disorder of the entire system; and I there declared my preference for the modern theory, according to which there are two poisons, one of which merely induces local disease, namely, an ulcer at the point of inoculation, accompanied in some instances by inflammation and suppuration of the neighbouring lymphatic glands; while the other always gives rise to constitutional disorder, with extensive derangement of nutrition. At that time, however, I did not declare myself so unreservedly in favour of the doctrine of the duplicity of the virus (or duality, to use another common expression) as I now do," etc., etc.

Part Third.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.

SESSION XLVII.-MEETING X.

Wednesday, 2d June 1869.—Dr Halliday Douglas, Vice-President, in the Chair.

I. Obstructed coronary arteries.—Dr Sanders exhibited a slightly fatty hypertrophied heart with incompetent mitral valves and obstructed coronary arteries. The affection of the coronary arteries was suspected during life.

II. Cystic hypertrophy of kidneys.—Dr Sanders also showed two kidneys, both of which greatly enlarged, weighing each upwards of a pound, and almost entirely converted into cysts. They were almost identical with those figured by Rayer, as dégénérescence cystique général.

III. Dr Halliday Douglas exhibited the lungs and kidney removed from a case of tubercular disease. Diffuse miliary deposit was found in the upper part of the lungs. The patient, a postman, continued at his work till twenty-five days before his death, and only exhibited symptoms of tuberculosis during the last eight or ten days. Tubercular deposit was also found at the base of the brain.

IV. Dr Watson exhibited a simple osteomatous tumour he had removed from the lower jaw of a young woman.

V. Dr Watson also showed a specimen of an application for cancer, which he had obtained from a patient affected with epithelioma of the lower lip, with great enlargement of the glands, who had employed it on the recommendation of a shepherd. The patient died of hemorrhage after its use.

VI. Mr Annandale showed a good specimen of glandulo-proliferous tumour of the mamma, which he had successfully removed.

VII. Mr Annandale also showed a boot for the cure of talipes, a modification of one formerly exhibited.

VIII. Dr Chiene showed a dried preparation of a double hernia, which