Part Second.

REVIEWS.

Cornil et Babes. *Les bactéries et leur rôle dans l’étéologie, l’anatomie, et l’histologie pathologiques des maladies infectieuses.* Troisième édition refondue et augmentée. **Felix Alcan, Editeur.** Paris, 1890.

The first edition of this work appeared in 1885, the second in 1886. At that time bacteriology was scarcely the science it has now become, reforming etiology, histological anatomy and pathology, and hygiene, and rendering, as it will in the future continue to do, the greatest possible services to preventive medicine. It is sufficient proof of the great popularity of this work that a third colossal edition has become necessary. It now appears in two volumes of 582 and 608 pages respectively. The authors have recast completely many of the chapters and added numerous new ones. For example, Pneumo-Enteritis of the Hog, Contagious Mammitis of the Milch-cow, Haemorrhagic Septicemia, Urinary Septicemia, Actinomycosis and Tetanus, maladies the microbial origin of which has been recently settled. An appendix contains what was known at date of the micro-organisms of epidemic influenza; a short chapter on the ptomaines engendered by pathogenic microbes; the improvements employed by Pasteur in his intensive methods of inoculation against rabies, and the results obtained by Babes, of the Bacteriological Institute at Bucharest, by his preventive inoculations; and the microbes of the mucous secretions of bronchitis, of which six species, dubbed “bacilles mycogènes,” are described under the headings of form, mobility, colorability, grouping, cultural behaviour on gelatine, gelose, and potatoe, and their pathogenic properties when injected into animals such as mice, rabbits, and guinea-pigs. Chapter 10 of the first volume gives an interesting history of the attenuation of virus and the various theories of how immunity is brought about; and in the main the authors seem to agree with the general theory of phagocytosis, as propounded by Metschnikoff.

The volume contains 385, coloured and in black, illustrations intercalated in the text, and twelve separate plates. Of the plates four are photographic representations of the principal types of microorganisms; none of the figures on those plates can be called very good photographs, and some of them are actually bad, witness Figs. 5, 22, 23. Of the drawings so abundantly interspersed in the text, many are not at all good, and compare very disadvantageously indeed with the clearness, precision, and delicacy of finish of those illustrating Baumgarten’s *Pathological Mycology.*

The authors have, however, produced a work second to none in interest for the bacteriologist, and a genuine “first aid” to him in all
the technique and instrumentation of his science. They have diligently and conscientiously gathered together an amount of material from all quarters of the bacterial world, which, on account of this very richness, will make their book an indispensable one for reference, and will supplement where Baumgarten and Flügge have only touched in passing or altogether omitted. Still, the book would have been a better one had there been in it more of objective, sifting criticism, and not a mere collation of the literature quoted; and one would suppose that Cornil and Babes are the very men who could criticize judiciously. The histological-pathological parts of the work are very carefully elaborated. Altogether the two volumes contain the completest record of everything appertaining to bacteriological science that has ever appeared, or is likely to issue from the press in the future.

Die Protozoen als Krankheitserreger. Von Dr L. Pfeiffer, Geh. Med. Rath. und Vorstand des Grossh. Sachs. Impfinstituts in Weimar. Jena: Gustav Fischer: 1890.

According to Pfeiffer (Centralblatt für Bakter. u. Parasitenkunde, 8 Band, s. 762) the most important characteristic of the protozoa consists in the unicellularity of their body, which condition persists during their lifetime. Although more than one spore may be present in the body, a corresponding division does not take place into as many cells. From this results the absence of organs in the protozoic body. All of them can live only in a moist or fluid medium. Deprived of moisture, nourishment, or oxygen, the body contracts into a rounded, persistent cyst, an event which is generally accompanied by propagation of a generation of spores which defy dessication and can be transported by the winds. Colony-formation and massive penetration of these spores in milliards into large enough cells is a further peculiarity. The young parasites differ less in form and size than in their mode of life. In youth they are all parasites of specific cells; there is present a sort of larval condition in which, by means of either pseudopodes or flagella, they move and fix themselves in cells, with loss of their former mobility. This "swarming" stage, hitherto unknown, is not wanting in the coccidia and amœbæ, a fact which is of far-reaching significance for the interpretation of the etiology and clinical course of infectious diseases. Millions of those spores bring about the most extensive cell-infections and cell-destruction, as witness the pebrine of the silkworm and the coccidia disease of rabbits.

Attempts to isolate, by means of pure cultivations, the specific bacteria of a large group of contagious and miasmatic diseases, such as variola, scarlatina, vaccine, etc., have hitherto totally failed, and the recognition of this fact has caused bacteriologists to study the protozoa in man, animals, and plants, in the hope that this comparative examination might lead them nearer to the desired end.
The author of this work, a practising physician, has found the time and had the energy to examine for himself in a field comparatively unexplored. A compendious book of the parasitic protozoa has not yet been written for the use of medical men, and the literature of the subject is as scanty as it is indispensable. The author is modest, and what of new he has advanced in this book regarding the cell-parasites he holds reserved for competent zoologists to interpret and perfect, and his aim has been to tell them on what sides, from the view of the practical physician, the need for enlightenment lies. For years the author has sought for bacteria or some other cell-parasite in varicella, vaccine, variola, and herpes zoster. He has not obtained conclusive proof that the skin-trouble of herpes comes from the side of the blood; but he has firmly established the fact that a hypertrophy, sometimes even monstrous, of particular epithelial cells can be caused by klossia, cimeria, cocecidium, and sporidia, and that the same hypertrophy repeats itself in zoster, variola, ovine, and vaccine disease of the skin. He believes that the stranger in the cells betrays its nature by this comparative examination.

For the interesting minutiae and details of the book we must refer to the original, which is divided into nine parts, and is illustrated by thirty-four woodcuts and one plate.

Part 1.—Introduction. 2. Locally circumscribed Epithelial Infections by Coccidia and Free Living Gregarinæ. 3. Sporidia Infections. 4. Endothelial, Hæmocytic, and Leucocytic Infections. 5. Characteristics of the Cell-Infections and Hypertrophies called forth by Protozoa. 6. Epithelioma Contagiosum and Fowl Diphtheria. 7. The Alterations undergone by Epithelial Cells in Herpes Zoster and Variola. 8. Explanation of the Plate schematically representing the Developmental Processes of Sporozoa. 9. Literature.

The author made little use of reagents, and coloured his preparations as seldom as possible with staining fluids. When he used any of the latter he preferred hæmatoxylin. For the observation of the motile phenomena he constructed a simple stage, which is figured, and warmed it with water. The lens used was the new apochromatic objective of Abbé. Many of his drawings remind one of those figured by Dr W. Russell of this city in his paper on the "Organism of Cancer," which paper appeared in the number of the British Medical Journal for December 13th, 1890.

Elements of Practical Medicine. By Alfred H. Carter, M.D. Lond.; Member of the Royal College of Physicians, London; Physician to the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham; Emeritus Professor of Physiology, Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, etc. Sixth Edition. London: H. K. Lewis: 891.

The fact that this well-known handbook of Medicine has now reached its sixth edition is good evidence of its merit and of the
fact that it supplies a want. In this edition Dr Carter has had the assistance of Dr G. F. Crooke and Mr Malcolm Morris in the preparation of the sections on General Pathology and Diseases of the Skin respectively. These sections have been brought well up to date, except the paragraphs on the relation of micro-organisms to disease, which might well have been more particular. The section on Diseases of the Urinary Organs is too sketchy; the others are all that could be desired.

Fever; its Pathology and Treatment. By Hobart Amory Hare, M.D., B.Sc., Clinical Professor of Diseases of Children, and Demonstrator of Therapeutics in the University of Pennsylvania. No. 10 in the Physicians’ and Students’ Ready Reference Series. Philadelphia and London: F. A. Davis: 1891.

This volume, originally the essay to which the Boylston Prize Committee of Harvard University awarded the prize in 1890, is not so much a dissertation on fever—only ten pages, indeed, being devoted to that subject—as an essay on antipyretics. Of these antipyrin is first discussed, many authors quoted, and, from both experimental and clinical evidence, the opinion arrived at, that it is the best antipyretic which we possess at present. Its action on the circulation is said to be nil; but a long list of the untoward effects now and then observed after administration of the drug is given, many of which are notes on cases of cardiac failure and collapse. Antifebrin, thallin, and phenacetin are dismissed with fewer words, the last of the three being, however, especially recommended as an analgesic. The haemolytic action of all these drugs is touched upon, and a word said about the appearance of the urine; but this part of the subject has not received nearly the attention which it deserves. The effect of these remedies on the blood-pressure is shown in some very good charts; and as a compendium of what is at present known about these recent antipyretics the book may be of some use.

A Practical Text-book of the Diseases of Women. By Arthur H. N. Lewers, M.D. Lond., M.R.C.P. Lond. Third Edition. London: H. K. Lewis: 1891.

We note the appearance of the third edition of Dr Lewers’ text-book on Gynecology. This fact shows that the book has made a place for itself amongst students and practitioners. There are not many alterations of moment in this edition. A few more illustrative cases have been added; and in the chapter on Dysmenorrhoea the author has largely followed the lines laid down by Dr Champneys in his recent Harveian Lectures on Painful Menstruation. The author speaks guardedly of the results of the treatment of fibroids by the Apostoli method, and in this respect he would seem to
reflected the general opinion of the medical profession at the present time. The book is well worthy of the support it has received, and we congratulate the author on the appearance of this edition.

__On Painful Menstruation. By Francis Henry Champneys, M.A., M.D. (Oxon.), F.R.C.P. London: H. K. Lewis: 1891."

This book contains the Harveian Lectures on Painful Menstruation delivered by Dr Champneys last year. The first lecture is occupied with an account of normal menstruation, and of the changes in the uterus and other pelvic viscera during the monthly cycle. In attempting to define dysmenorrhœa, the author very rightly refuses to regard pain outside the "genital sphere" as dysmenorrhœa, and he also notes that women vary much in their capacity for feeling and for bearing pain, and in their power of appreciating it. Dr Champneys boldly disposes of nearly all the so-called varieties of dysmenorrhœa—the gouty, the chlorotic, the ovarian, et hoc genus omne—and discusses only the two classes of—(1) the spasmodic, including membranous; and (2) the inflammatory. He points out that inflammatory or congestive dysmenorrhœa is a misnomer, as the pain is nearly entirely inter-menstrual, and is really relieved during menstruation.

The second lecture is entirely devoted to a consideration of that curious variety of spasmodic dysmenorrhœa which is known as membranous. Into this subject Dr Champneys goes most fully, and he appendas a useful bibliographical table of cases which have been from time to time reported. He considers that the passage of a membrane at the menstrual time is probably much commoner than is believed, and has found that it is not always accompanied by pain. When dysmenorrhœa is present, its cause is considered to be—(1) colic of the uterus, excited by a foreign body; and (2) colic super-excited by the passage of this foreign body, i.e., the membrane, over a specially sensitive part, i.e., the os internum uteri.

Into the differential diagnosis between membranous dysmenorrhœa and abortion the author goes with much minuteness, and this portion of the book is especially worthy of study. The treatment he regards as most unsatisfactory, but he would feel tempted to try scraping the uterus shortly before the menstrual period, and the use of a somewhat neglected drug—castoreum. Even pregnancy going to the full term is sometimes insufficient to cure this form of dysmenorrhœa.

The third lecture is devoted to spasmodic non-membranous dysmenorrhœa, and in it Dr Champneys argues strongly against the theories that hold the pain to be due to obstructed menstrual flow, either from stenosis or from flexions of the uterus. The condition he regards as essentially a neurosis, with motor phenomena (colic) and vaso-motor phenomena (scanty or greatly varying flow),
and the treatment advised is based upon this conception. "The local treatment of diseases of women," it is remarked, "is only justifiable when it is necessary."

The lectures contain many very necessary protests against present-day methods of tinkering with the uterus, more especially in unmarried women; and they ought to be widely read by the profession. The get-up of the book is excellent.

A Manual of Diseases of the Nose and Throat, including the Nose, Naso-Pharynx, Pharynx, and Larynx. By Procter S. Hutchinson, M.R.C.S., Assistant Surgeon to the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat. London: H. K. Lewis: 1891.

This small work, which consists of only 124 pages, is written, we learn from the preface, chiefly to meet the requirements of post-graduates who wish to study this special branch of Medicine. We shall be surprised if even the average under-graduate is content with the information to be derived from its pages. The greater part of page 41 is taken up by a prescription, given in extenso, for a very ordinary aperient mixture, while in other places points of practical importance are conspicuously absent. For example, menthol, so largely used now in throat affections, and Gottstein's or Hartman's curette, so much used in the removal of adenoid vegetations, are not even mentioned. The fused bead of chromic acid does not appear to be known to the author, for he tells us that "a saturated solution of chromic acid answers very well" as a substitute for the electric cautery.

The best portion of the book is that devoted to lupus and paralysis of the larynx. The descriptions of these conditions are clearly conveyed, and the illustrations which accompany them are excellent.

The author is evidently not prepared to admit that primary tubercle of the larynx has ever been demonstrated. We are also surprised to learn (page 109) that the best way to apply the lactic acid treatment to the larynx is by means of a fine spray, and no mention is made of the treatment of the tubercular larynx as carried out by Heryng, Krause, and others.

Other statements or omissions might be referred to, but enough has been said to show that the book is superficial, and is not likely to meet the requirements of those to whom it is specially addressed.

Botany Notes for Students of Medicine and Science. By Alexander Johnstone, F.G.S., Lecturer on Botany, School of Medicine, Edinburgh. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone: 1891.

These "Notes" contain much valuable information in a condensed form, and will be of much use to students, especially to those beginning the study of botany. The book is largely a compilation from other and larger works. As the author tells us in his
preface, he has "made ample use of Sach's *Text-Book of Botany*, Prantl and Vine's *Text-Book of Botany*, M'Nab's *Botany*, and M'Alpine's *Atlases and Short Notes for Biological Students.*" Nevertheless the author has produced a book which will be of much use to those beginning the study of this interesting branch of science.

The nomenclature of the "Natural Orders," in many cases, is antiquated, and even the classification of the Natural Orders is not such as is adopted by the best botanists in the present day.

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### Notes on the Additions made to the British Pharmacopoeia 1890.

By Frederick T. Roberts, M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.P., Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, and of Clinical Medicine, at University College. London: H. K. Lewis: 1891.

Professor Roberts in these Notes has produced an excellent supplement to his well-known and valuable *Text-Book, The Officinal Materia Medica*.

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### New Official Remedies B.P. 1890—Supplement to "Materia Medica and Pharmacy."

By A. W. Gerrard, Teacher of Materia Medica and Pharmacy to University College, etc. London: H. K. Lewis: 1891.

This "Supplement" is a useful addendum to the author's *Materia Medica and Pharmacy*. Most botanists in the present day would include the genus "Datura" under *Solanaceae* and not *Atropaceae*. The specific name of this plant is always spelt with a capital—thus, *Datura Stramonium*.

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### The Medical Practitioner's Cash Book.

Designed by Dr Illingworth, Clayton-le-Moors.

Dr Illingworth has sent us a specimen page of this *Cash Book*, filled up with a great variety of items. It is especially designed for those who keep an open surgery along with carriage, horses, coachman, etc., and therefore can never be widely used on this side of the Border. The *Cash Book* is, however, well designed, and may prove of great use to many in England, for whom it is evidently specially arranged.

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Thomas Sopwith, M.A., C.E., F.R.S, with Excerpts from his Diary of Fifty-Seven Years. By Benjamin Ward Richardson, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S. London: Longmans, Green, & Co.

"Here is a dear, a true industrious friend."—I. Henry IV.

This is a charming biography of a delightful man, or rather autobiography, for Dr Richardson, with a wise self-effacement, lets his subject speak for himself in diary and letters. In these days
when pessimism is a fashion and grumbling a cult, it is refreshing to read of a fine old warmhearted Englishman from canny Northumberland, who went from Dan to Beersheba, and found everything not barren, who seems rarely to have had an ache or a pain, a failure, or an introspection; who in three marriages found each new wife surpassing her predecessor, and each new jaunt or holiday better than the last—a wholesome, energetic, successful man, who had hosts of friends, and never made an enemy; had his biographer not been wise, his readers might have suggested ostracism. But Dr Richardson has made the book so easy to read, has picked out many an interesting theory, and introduced us to so many pleasant people, that it can be read with care and finished with regret.

Guy’s Hospital Reports, Vol. XLVII. Edited by A. Davies Colley, M.A., M.C., and W. Hale White, M.D. London: J. & A. Churchill: 1890.

The first place in this year’s volume of Reports is devoted to an account of the life of the late Sir William Gull, accompanying which there is a characteristic portrait reproduced by the autotype process. The scientific papers which follow cover a wide field of original work, both clinical and pathological. Mr Davies Colley records a number of cases of malignant pustule in which considerable success resulted from the use of ipecacuanha; also a typical case of Internal Derangement of the Knee-joint. Dr Washburn furnishes a careful report on the Bacteriology of Glanders, and the notes of a fatal case of the disease admitted to the wards of the Hospital. The same author, along with Mr Jacobson, describes two cases of Urinary Tuberculosis, in which experimental inoculation was found a valuable aid in diagnosis. Dr Goodall’s analysis of 262 cases of Chorea admitted to Guy’s during the years 1879-89 is a valuable continuation of the work of the late Hilton Fagge in the same department. Dr Goodall has another paper, in which are described the histological changes in the cord in a case of Compression Paraplegia. Mr Targett’s paper on Sarcoma of the Tongue is a résumé of all the published cases of this comparatively rare disease. Mr Clement Lucas writes on Fracture of the Coracoid; Dr Hale White on Primary Malignant Disease of the Liver and on Pernicious Anaemia; Dr Goodhart on Bruits; Mr Evans on Antiseptics and Disinfectants; Mr Golding Bird on Wry-neck and Facial Hemi-atrophy; Messrs Starling and Hopkins on the Changes in the Urine in Phosphorus Poisoning. Lastly, there is a paper from the pen of Mr Tubby on the Pathology of Acute Infective Periostitis and Acute Necrosis of Growing Bone.

We have read this last paper with some interest. The author contends that the disease always begins at one or other epiphysial junction of a long bone, and then spreads by continuity to the periosteum and medulla respectively. The operative treatment recom-
mended is based upon this view of the pathology of acute necrosis; it is regarded as essential in every case of acute periosteal suppuration that the bone be trephined in the region of the epiphysial junction. We are unable to concur with the author's views. We have been in the habit of examining recent specimens of acute necrosis by making frozen sections of the affected bone, and we have found that in those cases which result in necrosis the suppulsive inflammation does not begin at any one point, but that multiple foci of suppuration develop simultaneously throughout the medulla and beneath the periosteum, as one would naturally expect, seeing that the microbes reach the bone by way of its arteries.

We are also unable to agree with the author in his contention that the skin is the chief channel of ingress of the micrococci into the blood; he adopted this view because he found the sweat ducts in a case of acute necrosis crowded with staphyloccoci. Other observers, who have found the staphyloccoci in the sweat glands and in the sweat, came to a different conclusion, viz., that the skin was one of the main channels of their elimination.

Part Third.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.

SESSION LXX.—MEETING X.

Wednesday, 17th June 1891.—Professor Simpson, President, in the Chair.

I. EXHIBITION OF PATIENTS.

1. Dr John Thomson showed two children with chronic cerebral lesions. (1) A little girl with a lesion near the floor of the 4th ventricle. The patient was 2 years old, and had been sent to the New Town Dispensary by Dr E. E. Maddox. Her symptoms were—(a) complete paralysis of both external recti, with very extreme double internal strabismus; (b), paralysis of both sides of the face, rather less marked on the left than on the right side, and on both sides showing this peculiarity—that while the muscles of the lips, cheeks, and forehead were almost absolutely immobile, the eyelids could be tolerably well closed, the orbicularis palpebrarum being comparatively little affected; (c), a curious inability to open her mouth, even when her pharynx was tickled she was unable to separate the front teeth more than two-thirds of an inch; (d), extreme irritability dating from onset of other symptoms. The child was normal in other respects, with the exception of a chronic