The authors have produced a work of great value to general practitioners and students of medicine. It is based on wide and varied experience of the specific fevers, with special relation to their diagnosis and treatment. A comparison of this with older books on the subject discloses a real advance.
in our knowledge, the advance being more particularly in the domain of pathological chemistry and bacteriology.

The first forty-eight pages deal with fever, contagion and infection, and disinfection. The first and the last are well and adequately treated, but the terms contagion and infection remain as fluid as ever in their meaning, the authors, indeed, being of the opinion that the distinction between the two should be given up altogether; but there is certainly a wiser course, too little adopted in British medicine—viz., to express the ideas underlying these two terms in plain English words of simple and unequivocal meaning.

A useful chapter is devoted to drug rashes simulating those of the specific fevers, and another chapter deals with forms of sore throat and their differentiation from the sore throats of some of the specific fevers. This chapter is not entirely satisfactory from an etiological point of view. Follicular tonsillitis is here separated from diphtheria, but the writer on infectious disease in Allbutt's System of Medicine thinks these should be regarded with grave suspicion from the point of view of diphtheria.

The rest of the book, comprising 294 pages, is devoted to an account of the specific fevers, including mumps, influenza, typhus, relapsing fever, and anthrax, and in this larger section of the work the special excellence of the authors' treatment is fully shown in their careful and full presentation of the symptoms of each affection, in the enumeration of individual variations from the "morbid mean" of each specific fever, and in their full account of the complications and sequelae of the different diseases, and their altogether admirable differential diagnosis.

The bacteriological relations of each disease are pointed out, several plates are given representing the forms of different bacteria, and much useful information is furnished of the behaviour of bacteria on different culture media and for their preparation for microscopic examination. Several diagrams represent in graphic manner the appearance of the rashes in the respective fevers, and many useful temperature charts are scattered throughout the book.

The book winds up with four appendices on staining solutions; the regulations of the Metropolitan Asylums' Board on removal of infectious cases of disease; a table showing incubation periods, day of eruption, &c.; the antitoxine treatment of diphtheria; and a fairly adequate index.

We have tested this work freely in dealing with the more or less obscure forms of infectious disease, and have found it
invaluable, and have no hesitation in recommending it to the favourable notice of all members of the profession. The authors deserve high praise for their book, and they may rest assured that its careful perusal will remedy much of the faulty diagnosis of the specific fevers at the present day.

Two Years of Anti-Choleraic Inoculation in Calcutta. By W. J. Simpson, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H., Health Officer, Calcutta, 8th July, 1895.

Brigade-Surgeon Lieut.-Colonel Sanders’ Criticism on the Cholera Inoculation of Calcutta and Serampur, and Dr. Simpson’s Reply, 24th August, 1896.

The name of Dr. W. J. Simpson is one not only of Indian but European fame. The good work of much needed sanitary reform which he is carrying out in Calcutta is well known and heartily acknowledged. Calcutta is the capital of Bengal, and Bengal is the “home of cholera.” Thus, in a sanitary sense, Dr. Simpson’s work is of world-wide influence and importance.

It would be out of place here to describe the various steps which have been taken to subdue cholera in Calcutta. The filling up of the notorious “water tanks” and the introduction of another water supply conveys a great deal to the minds of those who are acquainted with life in India. The tracing of the outbreak of cholera on board the Ardenclutha to milk cannot be forgotten.

But another, and a very promising measure, has been adopted in the form of anti-choleraic inoculations, and it is to this later development that our attention must be confined.

In his report on “Two Years of Anti-Choleraic Inoculations in Calcutta,” Dr. Simpson gives a clear, painstaking, and most interesting account of the results of this method of protection against the dread disease. He does not omit to give M. Haffkim due acknowledgment. Let Dr. Simpson speak for himself:—

“The number of people inoculated during the period under review was 7,690; of these 5,853 are Hindus, 1,476 Mahomedans, and 361 other classes. The 7,690 inoculations were carried out chiefly by one medical man who, at the same time, has to perform other duties, such as registering the inoculations, investigating cases, and explaining to the people the object of the inoculations. Considering that the system is a new one,
that the inoculations are purely voluntary, and everything connected with them has to be explained before the confidence of the people can be obtained, and considering how long new ideas are in taking root among the general population, and in this case it is not merely the acceptance of an idea, but such faith in it as to consent to submit to an operation, the number is certainly satisfactory for a beginning.

"The present problem can be compared with the introduction of vaccination against small-pox into Calcutta. It took twenty-five years before the number of vaccinations reached an average of 2,000; whereas the inoculations against cholera have in two years nearly doubled that average." . . .

"There is a certain discomfort produced by the inoculations, such as an attack of fever lasting about twenty-four hours, pain at the seat of inoculation on moving, thus interfering with heavy physical work for about thirty-six hours. The discomfort is not, however, worse than that induced by vaccination when the vesicles have risen well, and it has the advantage of not lasting nearly so long. The method of inoculation has been recently simplified by dispensing with the first vaccine, the second now being used directly in smaller doses. This increases slightly the degree of discomfort, but does away with the necessity of undergoing two inoculations. As in vaccination, the symptoms after inoculation, i.e., the degree and duration of the fever and local effect, vary according to the idiosyncracy or peculiarity of constitution of the inoculated person; but it is necessary to prominently bring to notice that all sorts and conditions of individuals, weak and strong, sickly and healthy, young and old, well nourished and badly nourished, and often persons suffering from chronic diseases, have been inoculated, in every instance without exception, the inoculations have proved perfectly harmless. In several instances, like that lately in Serampur, reports have been spread that injury has followed the inoculations. On investigation it has been proved by the official medical and civil authorities that these reports were absolutely untrue."

As to the results:—"The investigations on the effect of the inoculations are made exclusively in those houses in which cholera has actually occurred, the object being to ascertain and compare the incidence of cholera on the inoculated and not inoculated in those houses in which inoculations have been previously carried out." . . .

"Without excluding the occurrences of cholera in the inoculated during the four days necessary for treatment, and considering the results for the whole period of time, from the
first day of the operations in Calcutta up to the end of last month, the results are as follows:

"654 uninoculated individuals had 71 deaths (10.86 per cent), while 402 inoculated in the same households had 12 deaths (2.99 per cent). This shows that notwithstanding the incomplete protective effect of the first four days, and the gradual disappearance of the resistance in those inoculated with weak doses of weak vaccines, which a large number of the inoculated people have received, the mortality amongst the inoculated, compared with that of the uninoculated, was in the proportion of 1 to 3.63, giving a reduction of mortality of 72.47 per cent; or, in other words, in houses where inoculations were performed, and which were subsequently visited by cholera, there occurred for every 11 deaths amongst the uninoculated 3 deaths amongst a similar number of inoculated.

"The results of Calcutta are fully confirmed by those obtained in other parts of India wherever it was possible to make all the necessary observations with precision, and wherever the cases were sufficiently numerous to show the effect of the inoculation."

These extracts must suffice for the statement of Dr. Simpson's case.

Brigade-Surgeon Lieut.-Colonel R. C. Sanders, in a speech delivered at the municipal meeting, opposed the grant for the inoculations on the ground that he did not think any good could come from them. He undertook a private investigation, and (through a third person) an educated Brahmin was sent round to spy out the land and report.

"The first thing he discovered was that three persons had been sent round to all these people, telling them to say nothing unfavourable." Dr. Sanders then went through Dr. Simpson's report, trying to pick holes, and making statements contradictory to those of Dr. Simpson. Lastly, he asserted that the experiments were dangerous. He thus concludes his speech:

"Lastly, sir, there is the guinea-pig point of view. I do not know what purpose in the creation the guinea-pig was intended to fill; but this I do know. He was not created that he might suffer a horribly loathsome, painful, lingering, and absolutely useless death, at the hands of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta."

In his "Reply" Dr. Simpson demolishes Dr. Sanders' "Criticism" in the most satisfactory manner; and, being justly indignant at the "private enquiry" and the insinuations of his opponent, demands the appointment of an independent Commission to investigate the results of anti-choleraic inocula-
tions. Dr. Simpson is to be sympathised with in his noble labours devoted to the saving of his fellowmen from "a horribly loathsome, painful death," especially when those labours are hampered with such unreasonable opposition as that of Dr. Sanders.

Years ago the writer was personally conducted by Dr. Simpson over some of the slums of Calcutta (Jora-Bagan and Burra-Bazaar), and he has a vivid recollection of the horrors with which the health officer had to contend in the stifling and depressing city on the Hugli. Let us hope that his hands will be strengthened, and that he may be spared to see the fruits of his labour.

Micro-Organisms and Disease: an Introduction to the Study of Specific Micro-Organisms. By E. Klein, M.D., F.R.S. New Edition. London: Macmillan & Co., Limited. 1896.

Nothing could show better the progress that the science of bacteriology has made during the last ten years than a comparison of the 1885 edition of this work with the present edition. For example, in 1885 the author required five pages to describe the vibrio of Asiatic cholera, whereas in the present work forty pages are devoted to a description of this germ; the Klebs-Löffler bacillus of diphtheria (first discovered and described in 1884) is not mentioned in the 1885 edition, whereas its description occupies twenty-eight pages of the present. Other examples might be quoted to show that the author, in order to bring his work up to date, has had virtually to rewrite his book.

The work naturally divides itself into two parts—a description (1) of the different methods of bacteriological investigation, and (2) of the different pathogenic and the most common non-pathogenic organisms. Special chapters are devoted to the discussion of the antagonism amongst bacteria, and the relation between the saprophytic and the pathogenic germs.

In the first five chapters, the use of the microscope, the methods of staining, the preparation of the different culture media, the vessels and instruments used, the methods of inoculation, &c., are fully and clearly described. In fact, so perfect is this part of the work in other respects that one is surprised to find that in the section devoted to a description of special methods for the detection of special microbes, such methods as Abba's and Elsner's are not even mentioned. Again, to demonstrate flagella, Van Ermengem's method is the only one given. Excellent as this method is, one would
have expected that Löffler's method, and the more recently described method of Pitfield, would have been stated. True, Löffler's method is mentioned, but neither the steps of the process as described by Löffler, nor Nicolle and Morax's modification of the same, have been indicated.

After describing the general characters and chemistry of bacteria, the author goes on to describe the different microbes under the simple classification of cocci, bacilli, and vibrios. The bacilli he subdivides into non-specific and pathogenic, and into aerobic and anaerobic. The aerobic pathogenic bacilli are further subdivided into four groups—(a) Short oval rods which do not liquefy gelatine, and do not form spores; (b) bacilli resembling bacillus coli, and capable of producing acute infection and death to the animal body; (c) fine cylindrical rods slowly liquefying the gelatine and not forming spores; and (d) those which cannot be classified under (a), (b), or (c).

While the writer prefers the simple division into two classes—those which liquefy, and those which do not liquefy gelatine—subdivided into those which stain, and those which are decolourised by Gram's method, still the grouping, as indicated above, will answer well for teaching purposes. For the sake of comparison, it might have been better if bacillus coli had been described under group (b), instead of among the non-specific germs. True, it is normally non-specific, but authorities are equally agreed that it sometimes assumes a high degree of virulence. Moreover, it is probable that a few of the organisms described in this group were virulent varieties of bacillus coli. The writer has himself isolated from meat of a steak pie which had caused acute gastro-enteritis to each member of a large family, bacilli which in every respect were identical with the colon bacillus, except that it was evidently more virulent than the normal. What the author has written concerning the vibrio of cholera may, with equal force, apply to the bacillus coli, the bacillus typhosus, and others, viz., that bacilli "living afterwards under abnormal conditions of temperature, soil, and others, for considerable periods, could so alter as to change some of their original cultural characters, as also their physiological reactions." Apart from classification, however, the different micro-organisms are each minutely described, and the particulars in each case are thoroughly up to date. Considering its value for purposes of differential diagnosis, the author should (at least in the case of the pathogenic germs) have stated whether or not the germ could be stained by Gram's method, but, excepting this omission, very little fault can be found with this part of the work. Perhaps, occasion-
ally, the author is somewhat too critically digressive for a text-book meant for students, but altogether the book is one that can be highly recommended. It is rich in references, is well printed, and contains over 200 beautiful illustrations, mostly taken from photograms. In short, it is, we think, one of the best text-books on bacteriology, yet published in England.

**Disease and Defective House Sanitation.** By W. H. Corfield, M.A., M.D. Oxon., &c. London: H. K. Lewis. 1896.

Everything which emanates from the pen of Prof. Corfield on sanitation is deserving of the most careful reading by all interested in the public health. This small brochure contains the substance of two lectures which were delivered before the Harveian Society of London, and it deals with those defects in house sanitation which are not uncommonly found by the expert, and are relics of the time when such matters were less well understood than they are to-day. The author indicates wherein such defects in sanitary fittings menace the health, and shows how far-reaching may be their effects. He also very properly calls attention to the injury to health produced by leaky gas-fittings in the house—a subject to which, hitherto, too little attention has been paid. That coal-gas in small percentage quantities in a house atmosphere are inimical to good health cannot be doubted, and while its effect is probably not very lethal, it, at the same time, renders those exposed to its influence more vulnerable to attack from infective and other diseases. We entirely agree with the author when he says that "good sanitary work is really cheap in the long run," and that all the sanitary fittings of the house should be periodically tested as to their integrity. All interested in desiring to know where defects are likely to be found in house-fittings will find this brochure a useful guide.

**Post-mortem Examinations in Medico-Legal and Ordinary Cases.** By J. Jackson Clarke, M.B. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1896.

This is an excellent little manual. The author very carefully and graphically describes how to conduct an autopsy, and how to examine the various viscera after removal from the body. Special directions are given for cases of poisoning, cases of suspected criminal abortion, and for the examination of the
bodies of new-born infants. Tables for reference are given, stating the average size and weight of normal organs, the developmental changes in the foetus, &c. Chapters are devoted to the legal aspects of post-mortem examinations, and to the granting of death certificates. A special feature of the work is the description of the antiseptic precautions which should be taken to eliminate all chance of danger to the operator, or of conveying septic material to his patients. We can confidently recommend this work to students, and to practitioners who are not in the habit of conducting post-mortem examinations. It is well illustrated.

Dress and Health: an Appeal to Antiquity and Common Sense. By Charles Moore Jessop, M.R.C.P. Lond. London: Elliot Stock. 1896.

This is a reprint of two essays read before the British Medical Association in 1887 and 1889 respectively. The first contains the author's views on the subject of beef-tea, which he considers is most wrongly and wastefully prepared at present in our large institutions and in private families. The second treats of dress, ancient and modern.

Lectures on Pharmacology, for Practitioners and Students. Vol. I. By Dr. C. Binz. Translated from the Second German Edition by Arthur C. Latham, M.A., M.B. Oxon., M.A. Cantab. London: The New Sydenham Society.

In this volume the author has presented to us in as complete a form as possible the pharmacology of certain groups of medicinal substances.

The term pharmacology has not always had the same meaning, nor has it at the present time the same meaning in different countries. The author, therefore, in his introductory chapter defines what is meant by the term as he uses it. "Pharmacology," he states, "is the term used in Germany to denote the scientific investigation—with reference specially to the requirements of the physician—of such substances as are contained in the official pharmacopoeias of various countries and are employed in the treatment of disease. Moreover, corresponding with the original twofold meaning of the word φάρμακον, pharmacology includes the investigation of such inanimate chemical bodies as, acting externally on man or his
surroundings, may disturb his normal existence and so become poisons. Science, however, derives its best stimulus from the teacher's own activity in research, and we therefore include in pharmacology the search after fresh knowledge, the establishment of new facts, and the clearing up of old in both divisions."

In discussing the various substances dealt with, the author's object has been to give the reader an idea of how they came to be used in medicine, and a scientific explanation of their action on the human body.

For the latter purpose he takes advantage of such experiments on animals as will throw light on the subject, but he leaves out of account the scientific details of the action of medicines or poisons on particular organs if they have as yet no apparent meaning to the physician. He thus excludes much which is of little interest except to the scientist. On these lines the author has been peculiarly successful in producing a series of articles of great interest to the student and physician who would have an intelligent knowledge of their subject, and who would base the treatment of their patients on scientific principles and not on mere empiricism.

The articles are in lecture form, being practically a reproduction of a series of lectures and demonstrations delivered at the Pharmacological Institute in the University of Bonn. The volume should serve as an excellent example to lecturers, indicating as it does the interesting manner in which the subject may be dealt with.

The translator has performed his task well, his avowed purpose being to give the sense of the original rather than a too literal translation. The proofs have passed through the hands of Professor Binz, who has taken the opportunity of adding much fresh material and making many corrections.

The principal substances dealt with in this volume are—anæsthetics, hypnotics, aconitine and allied drugs, the nitrites, iodine and its preparations, atropine, caffeine, digitalis, ergot, calabar bean, pilocarpine, nicotine, strychnine, ammonium salts, alcohol, and the ethereal or essential oils.

_A Guide to Practical Chemistry for the Conjoint Board._ By Percy A. E. Richards, F.I.C., F.C.S. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1896.

This is a well arranged little book of fifty-seven pages adapted to the requirements of the examination in practical chemistry for the English Conjoint Board. There are full
directions for the preparation of the salts mentioned in the syllabus, and a scheme for the examination of a simple salt.

The following is an example of one of the errors contained in the book:—On p. 11, "Potassium iodine, brown precipitate," while in fact this reagent added in excess yields a yellow solution, preceded by the production of a precipitate only in the case of some solutions of bismuth salts.

The Causes and Treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis. By Samuel Hyde, M.D. London: John Bale & Sons. 1896.

This is an excellent manual which we have much pleasure in recommending, mainly on practical grounds, to the attention of our readers. It is only in recent years that a bright ray of hope has shone upon the prospect of sufferers from rheumatoid arthritis in its well-marked forms. There can be little doubt that amongst those who do not devote special attention to the study of this disease, much opportunity of benefiting patients is lost thorough the belief that rheumatoid arthritis is a form of rheumatism, or of gout, or is a combination of the two. The present volume will help to disabuse the reader's mind of this idea. The directions for treatment are clearly laid down. Dr. Hyde gives us his theory of the pathology of rheumatoid arthritis, but we believe that the practical side of the work is the more truly valuable.

Rheumatoid Arthritis: its Pathology, Morbid Anatomy, and Treatment. By Gilbert A. Bannatyne, M.D. Glas., M.R.C.P. Ed. Bristol: John Wright & Co. 1896.

In its historical aspect, as presented for instance in the first chapter, this work is full and interesting. The illustrations also constitute a commendable feature. But for the rest, the book stands in need of a thorough revision—revision as to both form and content. Careless proof-reading doubtless accounts for much; for example, we find on a single page two words each spelt in two different ways. But the style throughout, beginning with the preface, is slipshod to a degree. Perhaps Dr. Bannatyne may reply that he has authority on his side, for, unfortunately, a loose English construction is not wholly abjured among medical writers of the highest standing in Britain, and scarcely anything could be more shocking than some passages in a volume recently translated by the New Sydenham Society.

If the form of Dr. Bannatyne's work may be fairly objected
to, we feel bound also to comment unfavourably on some of the subject matter presented to us. Take this as a sample of an argument:—“In this, as in other bacterial diseases, we have no definite proof that it is not the micro-organisms themselves which cause the changes in the nerve system; but all argument, analogy, and proof are against their doing so” (pp. 35, 36. The italics are ours). Another objection we have to make is to the needless repetition of passages in Chapter II. And in general there is a diffuseness and lack of systematic arrangement throughout the work.

At the same time, due credit must be given to the author for having, in association with Dr. Wohlmann, demonstrated what seems likely to prove to be the specific organism of rheumatoid arthritis. This microbe has been studied by Dr. Blaxall, and a lengthy report by the latter on its characters is incorporated in the present work. The organism was found in the synovial fluid in rheumatoid arthritis, but not in other diseases. In severe cases of rheumatoid arthritis it was also found in the blood.

The remarks on treatment deserve attention, coming as they do from one who speaks from practical experience. Dr. Bannatyne states that carbonate of guaiacol is the drug on which he places most reliance, and he says that in few cases has he found it to fail ultimately. He gives 5 to 10 grs. three or four times a day. Of course, he does not profess to cure rheumatoid arthritis unless it comes under treatment in an early stage; but the arrest of the active morbid process and the relief of the patient’s sufferings are a worthy object to aim at.

Rheumatism: its Nature, its Pathology, and its Successful Treatment. By T. J. Maclagan, M.D. Second Edition. London: Adam & Charles Black. 1896.

We have pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the publication of the second edition of Dr. Maclagan’s work on rheumatism. Twenty years have now elapsed since he “introduced salicin to the notice of the profession as a remedy in acute rheumatism,” and the presentation of his matured views on the pathology and treatment of the disease will no doubt be welcomed by medical men. Dr. Maclagan, rejecting the lactic acid and the neurotic theories of the origin of rheumatism, believes that the disease is miasmatic in origin. “We believe the rheumatic poison to be malarial in nature. If it be so, it is a minute parasitic organism whose morbific
action, like that of the plasmodium malariae, is dependent on its growth and reproduction in the system; and which, like all other parasitic organisms, has a special nidus which is essential to its vivification, without which it cannot enter on its disease-producing career, and whose special seat is likely to impart to rheumatic fever, as it does to ordinary malarial fever and to each of the specific fevers, the peculiarities which are distinctive of it” (p. 83). This gives us the key to Dr. Maclagan’s views as to the nature and treatment of rheumatism. The arguments adduced by the author are almost wholly speculative. He has no experimental facts to adduce in support of his theory, nor do we learn that he has ever demonstrated “a minute parasitic organism . . . like that of the plasmodium malariae” in the blood of his patients suffering from rheumatic fever, or in their inflamed fibrous tissues. Although we are far from denying that Dr. Maclagan may be right in his supposition, we are quite sure that nothing short of such a demonstration will nowadays be accepted as conclusive proof. The clinical and therapeutical sections of the book are of great interest, and may be read with profit and pleasure.

Practical and Operative Gynaecology. By J. Clarence Webster, M.D., F.R.C.P. Ed. Edinburgh and London: Young J. Pentland. 1896.

Like all Dr. Clarence Webster’s writings, this little book on practical and operative gynaecology is of very considerable merit. There is nothing new in the work; it is simply a description of the modern methods of clinically investigating and treating diseases of the female pelvic organs. Its merit, however, is in the clear manner these are given, for even the beginner will have no difficulty, we imagine, in following the author through each page of the book.

The only fault we have to find with the work is that perhaps it is too condensed—too much in the form of a synopsis of the subject. This makes it more difficult for the reader to keep up the interest, we fancy; he is apt to become wearied with so many facts and details crowded so closely together.

The volume is divided into three parts. Part I is devoted to “Case Taking,” Part II to “Minor Therapeutic Measures,” and Part III to “Operative Measures.”

We have very great pleasure in heartily recommending this book to all students commencing the study of gynaecology.
Transactions of the American Surgical Association. Vol. XIII. Edited by De Forest Willard, M.A., M.D. Philadelphia. 1895.

This, the thirteenth volume of these Transactions, is quite up to the level of interest of its predecessors, and of considerably greater bulk. It contains thirty-five articles on surgical subjects by various authors more or less well known. These articles necessarily embrace wide limits, and deal with very varied subjects. In this volume, however, three subjects have received special attention—viz., that of fractures and dislocations, that of affections of the genito-urinary organs, and that of anaesthetics. To these three subjects have been devoted sixteen of the thirty-five articles.

The volume contains nothing new or original, but much of its matter is of very considerable interest, and will repay reading. It is well got up—paper, type, and illustrations alike being excellent.

A Pictorial Atlas of Skin Diseases and Syphilitic Affections in Photo-Lithochromes from Models in the Saint Louis Hospital of Paris, with Explanatory Woodcuts and Text. Edited and Annotated by J. J. Pringle, M.B., F.R.C.P. Parts V and VI. London: The Rebman Publishing Co., Ltd. 1896.

Parts V and VI of this atlas are now to hand, and the high standard of artistic and literary excellence manifested in the preceding parts is quite maintained. The diseases illustrated in the present number are agminate trichophytic folliculitis (ringworm of the neck), text by Sabouraud; lupus pernio (chilblain lupus), text by Tenneson; papulo-tuberculous syphilides, spreading centrifugally, text by Hallopeau; dermatitis vacciniformis infantilis and acute ecthyma of infancy, text by Hallopeau. In addition to the plates several excellent woodcuts are found in the text. We would take special note of the excellence of the plates illustrating lupus pernio and papulo-tuberculous syphilides. They are life-like in their realism, so that in looking at them we could almost imagine we were examining the living patient. M. Hallopeau’s remarks upon the origin and nosological significance of such syphilides are well worthy of careful study.

Part VI is also of great interest. The diseases illustrated are (1) lesions resulting from the cocaine and morphine habits (Gaston); (2) ringworm of the body (Sabouraud);
(3) syphilitic hyperkeratosis (L. Jacquet) and psoriasis figurata (L. Jacquet).

We have again most cordially to recommend this atlas to physicians and dermatologists.

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The Spas and Mineral Waters of Europe, with Notes on Balneo-Therapeutic Management in Various Diseases and Morbid Conditions. By Hermann Weber, M.D., F.R.C.P., and F. Parkes Weber, M.D., M.R.C.P. London: Smith, Elder & Co. 1896.

We have nothing but praise for this new guide to the European health resorts. The book contains 380 pages, is beautifully printed, pleasantly written, extremely full, and altogether very interesting. It includes a bibliography and an excellent index. The therapeutics of plain water, and of the various classes of mineral waters, and the influences of the change of air, scene, diet, and exercise at spas are duly considered. A chapter is devoted to table waters, another to marine spas, and another to the balneo-therapeutic management of different diseases. The practitioner who sends patients to watering-places need desire no better guide than the present volume to aid him in his selection of the appropriate resorts.

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What to do in Cases of Poisoning. By Wm. Murrell, M.D. Eighth Edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1897.

The appearance of the eighth edition of this little manual proves its great utility to the practitioner. The present edition has been thoroughly revised, and an index, which is likely still further to increase the utility of the book, has been added.

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Edinburgh Hospital Reports. Edited by G. A. Gibson, M.D., D.Sc.; C. W. Cathcart, M.A., M.B.; John Thomson, M.D.; D. Berry Hart, M.D. Fourth Volume. Edinburgh and London: Young J. Pentland. 1896.

This publication is always of interest to us as being a record of work done in the Edinburgh Medical School during the year gone by, for the excellence of the book must in a measure indicate the mental vigour of the school. We are No. I.
delighted to learn from the preface that each succeeding volume has more firmly established its position, and that the circulation is increasing.

This year’s reports is in every way a counterpart of the other three. The nature and scope of its articles are much the same as formerly, and if none of these papers are of the highest order, many of them show most careful and painstaking work, and add in no small measure to the medical literature of our country. If one wanted to find a fault it would be that there is possibly too great a tendency to report one, or possibly two cases, and to use these as an excuse for giving a clinical lecture on the subject under consideration. But if this be a fault, it must in justice be said that it is usually well executed.

There are some forty-seven articles in all, and many of these are of much interest. We have only space to mention a very few of them. Dr. Stockman records a case with many of the symptoms of pernicious anæmia. The post-mortem examination showed the large intestine to be very greatly distended, and its walls much atrophied. The hæmoglobin we note was deficient in direct proportion to the deficiency of the red blood corpuscles. There was no excess of iron in the liver. The condition of the bone marrow is not mentioned. We are not quite sure that this is a case of pernicious anæmia, at least in the more restricted sense of that term. Dr. Affleck and Dr. Leith give us a case of sarcoma of the suprarenal capsules, where the suprarenal tissue was quite displaced by the new growth. There was no pigmentation of the skin. We must also mention a case, reported by Dr. Gibson and Dr. Cattanach, of infantile paralysis affecting the right arm, where there was associated with it a paralysis of the right side of the face, and some defect of taste on the right side of the tongue. Then Dr. Lundie reports a case of loss of speech in a child where both the onset and recovery were gradual. Dr. Philip’s paper on “so-called causeless hemiplegias” is also of much interest. Dr. Turner writes a well arranged and a clear account of “facial paralysis and the sense of taste.” We also note Dr. Stalker’s two cases of aphasia, but we cannot altogether endorse his subsequent remarks. We hold that every symptom should, if possible, be explained by the presence of a corresponding lesion; and if the fields of vision had been noted, and a careful enquiry made as to the patient’s memory for places and objects as well as words, it is possible that some localisation might have been given to the lesion.

In surgery, Dr. John Duncan contributes a paper on laparotomy as a method of treatment in tubercular peritonitis. His
experience extends to some twenty-one cases, and the general results seem favourable to the operation. Then Dr. Wallace writes an excellent lecture on the administration of chloroform, which should be of much use to students and to others who may not yet have learned how to administer this anaesthetic.

Apart from the articles, the book is well printed, well illustrated, well bound, and altogether it makes a very handsome volume. We recommend it with every confidence to our readers.

Janus: Archives Internationales pour l'Histoire de la Médecine et la Géographie Médicale. Paraisant tous les deux mois. Directeur, Dr. H. F. A. PEYPERS. Amsterdam. 1896.

"JANUS" is the title of a new medical periodical devoted to the study of medical history and geography. In these days this may be regarded as a new departure in medical journalism, as it is probably known to very few that on several occasions during the last hundred years attempts have been made to establish periodicals devoted to the history of the healing art. The present journal is a resuscitation of an older and defunct journal of the same name, as we gather from the excellent historical account by Professor Stokvis in the first number. In the latter part of the eighteenth century, Archives of the history of medicine had been published at Nuremberg and at Venice; but Janus, of which the present journal is a revival, was the first of the attempts made in the nineteenth century to establish such a periodical. The first Janus was published at Breslau in 1846 under the editorship of Henschel, professor of clinical medicine there. It became defunct in 1848, and was revived at Gotha in 1851, but only existed for a few years. After this no attempt of a similar kind was made till 1878, when the brothers Rohlfs founded the German Archives of medical history, which ceased to be published in 1885. In 1886 Portuguese Archives of medical history appeared, but only survived for a year. Such, in brief, is the rather melancholy history of this department of medical journalism. We sincerely trust that the present attempt may prove more successful. The subject of medical history is one of great interest and even of importance, although to-day, as in 1846, it is rather apt to be crushed out of sight by the vigorous growth of modern medicine.

The journal is international in its scope, and the articles are printed for the most part in the language of the con-
tributors. There is a long list of editors and collaborators; and the papers which have already appeared cannot fail to be of the greatest interest to all lovers of archaeology and geography in their medical aspects. Among the names of the collaborators we note that of Dr. James Finlayson, and in the third number we observe a paper from his pen entitled “Dr. Robert Houston of Glasgow, the First Ovariotomist.” In the first number also, over the name of Dr. C. Creighton, there is a very favourable review of Mr. Duncan’s History of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, in the course of which reference is also made to Finlayson’s memoir of Peter Lowe and Glaister’s biography of Smellie.

We think that the value of the journal would be improved by a more detailed table of the contents of each number, and by the introduction of headlines to the pages. We wish every success to Janus redivivus.

Wright’s Improved Physicians’, Surgeons’, and Consultants’ Visiting Lists. Compiled by ROBERT SIMPSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Fourth Edition. Bristol: John Wright & Co. 1897.

This elaborate yet very handy visiting list is issued in three forms, at the uniform price of 5s. 6d., post free. In one form the patients names are written monthly, and in another weekly, whilst the third constitutes a perpetual list. The book is sure to satisfy the busy practitioner.

Letts’s Diaries. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd. 1886

We have received a number of these useful memoranda books. The medical diaries are well suited for the requirements of practitioners; and in particular we would call attention to the “Office Diary” for 1897, No. 8, as being a very convenient book for daily records, whether of medical or general matters.

Smith’s Physicians’ and Surgeons’ Visiting List for 1897. Twenty-first Year. London: Hazell, Watson & Viney, Ltd. 1897.

This also is a very neatly got up and convenient pocket book for practitioners.