

But we forbear to trace the description further. Let it not be supposed that this treatment is reserved for the chronic and secondary forms of syphilis, when there might possibly be some excuse, although we regard salivation in any degree as wholly unnecessary and generally injurious in every stage of the disease. The treatment here laid down by Dr. Colles is supposed to be adapted to "the simple case of a young man affected with primary venereal symptoms, but in other respects in perfect health." To resort to measures the direct tendency of which are unquestionably to interfere with the recuperative powers of the system, aggravate by general stimulation the primary symptom, light a train by which this is transmitted to some other tissue, and produce lesions wholly uncalled for, in some of the most delicate structures and important organs, is to set at nought the evidence of the most ample modern observation, and resign one's self to blind routine and the cant of the old pathology. That primary symptoms do occasionally disappear under the untoward treatment advised by Dr. Colles, cannot be doubted. He would ascribe their removal to the eradicating powers of the mercury, whereas we should be inclined to believe that the patient recovered in spite of the action of that agent.

With such views, upon fundamental points, we regard Dr. Colles's book as calculated to retard rather than promote our knowledge of the pathology and treatment of the venereal disease.

In our next number we hope to introduce to our readers a work of a very different stamp,—that of M. Lucas-Championniere; a work based upon the observations of Mr. Cullerier, a practitioner of the highest character, and whose opportunities of studying the disease in question have been unsurpassed.

G. E.

ART. XX. *A Discourse on some of the Diseases of the Knee-joint; delivered before the Massachusetts Medical Society, at their annual meeting, May 31, 1837.* By GEORGE HAYWARD, M. D., Professor of the Principles of Surgery and Clinical Surgery in Harvard University, and Surgeon to the Massachusetts General Hospital. Boston: 1837. pp. 28, 8vo.

Restricted, as an orator necessarily is, to very narrow limits, a minute exposition of the phenomena and modes of treatment of a class of diseases involving so many and important considerations as that of the knee-joint, cannot be looked for in an address like the present. The author has not, indeed, attempted it. He has judiciously aimed merely at tracing the prominent features of some of the affections of the important articulation just named, considering them as they affect the synovial membrane, the articulating cartilages, and the bones, and he has accomplished this object well. He has certainly not presented us with any striking new views, but he has pointed out the best means of studying the diseases in question; has given us a good, plain, common sense sketch of their characters, diagnosis and treatment; and he has the further merit of calling attention to an obscure and important subject—one which has received from surgeons far less attention than its importance ought justly to claim for it, whether we consider the sufferings these diseases cause or the serious consequences they involve.