

ness of the title,—“*the physiology and pathology of the spinal cord.*” But such parts of the theme as do receive consideration, are discussed with unusual directness and transparency. The style, and reasoning of the work, are highly pleasing and simple, so much so, that it is read with more than ordinary pleasure.

SHORTER NOTICES.

- I. A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON DISEASES OF THE EYE. By Robert Brudenell Carter, F. R. C. S., Ophthalmic surgeon to St. George's Hospital, etc., etc. Edited with additions and test-types, by John Green, M. D. Philadelphia: 1876. Henry C. Lea. 515 pages. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co.
- II. A TREATISE ON THE SCIENCE AND PRACTICE OF MIDWIFERY. By W. S. Playfair, M. D., F. R. C. P., Professor of Obstetric Medicine in King's College, etc. Philadelphia: 1876. Henry C. Lea. 576 pages. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co.
- III. A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON THE DISEASES, INJURIES AND MALFORMATIONS OF THE URINARY BLADDER, THE PROSTATE GLAND, AND THE URETHRA. By Samuel Gross, M. D., L. L. D., etc. Third edition. Revised and edited by Samuel W. Gross, A. M., M. D. Illustrated by one hundred and seventy engravings. Philadelphia: 1876. Henry C. Lea. 574 pages. Chicago: W. B. Keen, Cooke & Co.
- IV. AN INTRODUCTION TO PATHOLOGY AND MORBID ANATOMY. By T. Henry Green, M. D., Lond. Second American, from the third, revised and enlarged English edition. Illustrated by one hundred and eleven engraving on wood. Philadelphia: 1876. Henry C. Lea. 316 pages. Chicago: W. B. Keen, Cooke & Co.
- V. COMPENDIUM OF HISTOLOGY: TWENTY-FOUR LECTURES. By Heinrich Frey, Professor. Translated from the German by permission of the author, by George R. Cutter, M. D. Illustrated by 208 engravings on wood. New York: 1876. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 274 pages. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co.

- VI. A MANUAL OF PERCUSSION AND AUSCULTATION; of the Physical Diagnosis of Diseases of the Lungs and Heart, of Thoracic Aneurysm. By Austin Flint, M. D. Philadelphia: 1876. Henry C. Lea. 255 pages. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co.
- VII. LECTURES ON FEVER. Delivered in the Theatre of the Meath Hospital and County of Dublin Infirmary. By William Stokes, M. D., D. C. L. Oxon, F. R. S. Edited by John William Moore, M. D., F. K. Q. C. P., etc. Philadelphia. 1876. Henry C. Lea. 264 pages. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co.

I. This American edition of Dr. Brudenell Carter's work, will be welcomed by the profession. It is what the author states to have been his aim, a concise and readable statement of the present condition of our knowledge, in regard to the more important affections of the eye, their treatment, etc. It is especially a work for the general practitioner, who, without being able to master the special practice in eye diseases in all its details, yet requires a convenient manual that can inform him as to the nature of, and proper measures at his command for, the different ocular troubles which must be constantly coming under his observation. There are also features of many general affections, not perhaps, usually considered as in any way connected with ocular troubles, that require more or less knowledge of the methods of diagnosis, etc., described in this volume, for the understanding of their real nature, and many symptoms that can only be detected by these methods. The uses of the ophthalmoscope in the diagnosis of many forms of nervous diseases, are the most familiar illustrations of this fact. And yet it must be admitted that the majority of practitioners are hardly to be said to be familiar with this instrument, or to make any extensive use of it. In fact some have even decried its usefulness on the ground merely, that it has recently been shown to fail to indicate sudden and temporary changes in the cerebral circulation. The remarks of Dr. Carter on this subject on page 370, are to the point. The head symptoms that may be, we think, oftener met with than is generally supposed, in consequence of ocular deficiencies, are well illustrated by the case narrated on page 480 of this book. We have given Dr. Carter's report of this case in a former number of the *JOURNAL** and need not repeat it here. No very great space is given to the discussion of such cases in regard to questions of diagnosis, but the mere relation as given here is sufficiently suggestive.

Though Dr. Carter goes to no very great extent into the nervous complications of ocular troubles, still he clearly recognizes the neurotic character of many of the forms and symptoms of eye disease, as is well shown by his remarks on this point, when

*October, 1875.

he discusses the general subject of the principles of ophthalmic therapeutics. And while there are many phases of ophthalmic medicine, the connection of which with nervous diseases, we would like to see more fully discussed, we bear in mind that this is a practical work on a large subject, dealing with its theme in one point of view—that of the ophthalmologist, and that the work on the real relations of ocular disorders with nervous symptoms, apart from the mere ophthalmoscopic appearances, is yet to be written. There is need of such a work, and we hope it may soon appear.

We can cordially recommend this volume to students and practitioners. The additions by the American editor, are quite numerous, and seem to add to the value of the work.

II. This work though less in compass than most other treatises on its subject, on the whole very satisfactorily fulfils the claim of its author, that it is "an epitome of our present knowledge of midwifery." It is clear and readable in its style, its illustrations are largely the old ones familiar to the student of this branch of medicine, and their value and usefulness hence guaranteed by usage and experience, and the author is throughout practical and sensible. The book will, we think, hold its own in the contest for favor with its rather numerous competitors in this department of medical teaching.

III. This work of Dr. Gross's, the first and second editions of which have been for a considerable time out of print, is now issued to the public in a third edition considerably altered and revised by his son, Dr. S. W. Gross. Certain parts which were included in the former editions are omitted in the present one, they are the description of the anatomy of the urinary organs, and the appendix on the prevalence of calculous diseases in the United States. Two chapters by the editor have, however, been added, on tumors and tubercle of the bladder and prostrate gland respectively.

Of points for special mention we will mention only one, that relates to a subject coming directly within the scope of this JOURNAL. It is the omission of all mention, both in this, and we believe also in the previous editions, of the paralytic phenomena which occasionally accompany urinary troubles, and the explanation of the pathology of which, has been the subject of some controversy,—the urinary paralyses of Stanley. Though a surgical work like the present one, cannot be expected to go largely into the remoter nervous symptoms of the affections, which form its subject, yet these paralytic phenomena are so prominent when they occur, and apparently so directly connected with the urinary trouble, that they certainly deserve notice. In a case of calculus of the bladder, which recently came under our observation, and in which the stone, a very small one,

was evacuated naturally by the urethra, the most noticeable and troublesome symptoms were sciatic pains, numbness of the leg and foot, and a certain degree of actual paralysis, all of which continued to a slight extent for a short time after the removal of the cause. This is the only omission of note that attracts our attention, and it may not be deemed important. The work is a very valuable addition to surgical literature, and will be found useful to all who may refer to it.

IV. Whatever may be generally thought of labor-saving compendiums in general, but few will object to this elegantly printed and illustrated volume. In our opinion, a short compend of the leading facts, of a subject like histology, instead of always satisfying the student, permanently, while appreciated for its convenience, it as often awakens interest in the subject, and really serves as an introduction to the study of the fuller manuals. Dr. Frey, who is already well known by the translation of his longer work on the same subject, will by this shorter manual be introduced to a much larger circle of English-speaking readers, and, in our opinion, Dr. Cutter has done his countrymen a service in its translation.

V. Altogether, this is the best short manual of morbid anatomy in the English language, and we regret that our space, and the character of its contents, forbids a more extended notice. Only a small portion of its matter falls clearly within the range of our JOURNAL, and hence we are not able to treat it as it deserves. The arrangement and choice of subjects, the clearness and comparative thoroughness of its statements, make it very satisfactory. We are especially pleased with the appearance of the wood-cuts, most of them made for this work, after its author's own sections and drawings.

The work is divided into 46 short chapters, under the following heads: the "Cell," Nutrition Arrested; Nutrition Impaired; Fatty Degeneration; Mucoid and Colloid Degeneration; Amyloid Degeneration; Calcareous Degeneration; Pigmentary Degeneration; Tissue changes in Pyrexia; Nutrition Increased; New Formations; The Sarcomata; The Fibromata; The Myxomata; The Lipomata; The Enchondromata; The Osteomata; The Lipomata; The Papillomata; The Adenomata; The Carcinomata; The Myomata, Neuromata and Angiomata; Cysts; Inflammation; Acute Tuberculosis; Pyaemia and Septicaemia; Syphilis; Inflammation of Non Vascular Tissue; Inflammation of Common Connective Tissue; Inflammation of Bones; Inflammation of Blood-vessels; Inflammation of the Heart; Inflammation of Lymphatic Structures; Inflammation of Mucous Membranes; Inflammation of Serous Membranes; Inflammation of the Liver; Inflammation of the Brain and Spinal Cord; Inflammation of the Lungs;

Pulmonary Phthisis; Changes in the Blood and Circulation; Thrombosis; Embolism; Leukæmia; and finally, The Preparation and mounting of Specimens. From this list of titles to chapters, it will be seen that the range of topics is extended and interesting.

We can only repeat what we have said before, that we know of nothing in the way of a brief manual, superior to it in the English language. It may be safely and heartily commended, especially to students of morbid anatomy.

VI. This is a small but very convenient manual of percussion and auscultation, as applied in aid of the diagnosis of affections of the intra-thoracic organs. As such, we doubt not it will have a large sale. The reputation of its author is the best guarantee of its value.

VII. In many respects we like this work very much, in others it disappoints us. The author entertains what seem to us exceedingly sensible views, in many parts of his work, in others we are compelled to disagree with him.

Dr. Stokes does not attempt a close definition of fever, but gives his work up mainly to the description and treatment of its varieties. He seems to consider fever as an entity—something that is primary to all its accidental or accompanying lesions. This may be a correct view, but it suggests questions hard to answer, and we have our doubts. His classification of diseases into those with anatomical character, neuroses and fevers, is altogether faulty in that it assumes, and directly asserts that neuroses have no anatomical characters, and that fevers likewise have none, but differ in their subjection to the law of periodicity. It is not necessary for us to go into any lengthy discussion of what we conceive to be erroneous in such views, for the readers of this JOURNAL.

The author is too exclusively a clinician and too little of a pathologist: he does not show the respect due to the latter branch of medical science, and, in so far, injures his work as a scientific treatise. This is exhibited elsewhere in his use of terms, showing a certain looseness of ideas, and possibly a lack of correct pathological views. Thus he talks of cerebro-spinal *arachnitis*, meaning, of course, cerebro-spinal meningitis, but referring the inflammation altogether to a membrane which it is almost certain can never be primarily and independently inflamed.

Of course, with his views of fever, the author considers the participation of the nervous centers in this disease, as a secondary phenomena, like all other localized symptoms in fevers in general. Did the limits of our notice allow it, we might give some attention to this point, and develop what appear to us to be the correct views of this disorder, as opposed to what we

believe to be the erroneous ones held by the author, but we must let them pass.

As regards the practical points of the work, we have no unfavorable remarks to offer. Of course there may be differences as to details, such as that of alcoholic stimulation in fevers, etc., but Dr. Stokes is generally a safe practical guide.

The book is a useful one, on a very important subject, and is worthy of a place in every physician's library.