

confirmed by the profession, as is shown by the call for a new edition within less than two years. The present edition has been revised and about ninety pages of new matter and twenty-two wood-cuts added. The chief additions are in the chapters on diseases of the brain, of the larynx, of the blood, on the urine, and on parasites, and in the section on abdominal enlargement.

We must compliment the publishers on the excellent style in which they have issued the work.

ART. XXIX.—*Notes on Health in Calcutta and British Emigrant Ships, including Ventilation, Diet, and Disease.* By W. H. PEARSE, M.D., Edin., Government Emigration Service. 12mo. pp. 160. London, 1866.

We scarcely know what to say in relation to these "Notes on Health" by Dr. Pearse, so as to convey to our readers a correct idea of the nature and amount of information to be derived from them, and at the same time to do no injustice to their author. It is very certain that many useful hints are thrown out in respect to ventilation, diet, and water in their hygienic agencies, on board especially of emigrant vessels sailing to and from warm latitudes. The notes so far are expressed in a tolerably intelligible language. But in those devoted to a consideration of the pathology and treatment of the diseases which occur on board of emigrant ships, Dr. Pearse has indulged in a style so strange and obscure that we have found it a very difficult task to make out his real meaning. Indeed we do not feel very certain that we have done so after all our efforts to that effect.

His account of an outbreak of an "epidemic sore throat" on shipboard is a most remarkable specimen of medical description.

He defines scarlatina as follows:—

"Such a phenomenon as scarlatina will be cognizant to the mind as a natural variation of man's state in earlier individual life, at this period of time and nature—that it is not a specific thing, but a continued and natural and necessary variation. That it cannot be a fixed specific 'disease,' because that man himself is a transitional type and existence of matter and life, so the contained variations must be the necessary order of his, at any time, then actual present age."

We will simply quote as a sufficient justification of our criticism of the style of Dr. P. his very dark and scarcely intelligible definition of cholera:—

"I should view the symptoms which we call cholera, as the sequelæ, the natural course, perhaps, towards natural self-restoration; the result, probably, of some momentary—it may be infinitesimal—change antecedently happened."

"Such a hypothetical view, of what we call cholera, may embrace many possible means of production. Cholera may be of the nature of a cycle of change natural, and inherent, and inevitable, in the very composition and nature and relations of the human body, and its whole surroundings and existences, and true parts; it may be, also, or not be infectious, or partake of both these characters, but may yet more than in the body itself, be the result potentially, of some one or more chief change in external physical influences, as of heat, light, magnetism, etc.

"A recognition of the exquisite balance of infinite actions, relations, and parts which matter exhibits, or, rather, which are of matter and matter of them, in its course and forms in man, and other living things, and whose rate rather than balance, is not a fixed, but as yet an unexpressed—fixed—progressive one, evolving not perfect life or rate, but a present formative series, e. g.; childhood with its accessions passage into the rate of the eruptive fevers; youth with its power and passions; manhood with its passage to tubercle, cancer, etc.; old age with its cessation of the vital power of matter, in its then existing combinations, etc., opens the view to the vast relations, in extent and time, of man and his deviations, but such are man's senses, mind, and place in the whole series, that he is, by the simple observation of any fact, made cognizant of the whole

series of untecedent relations, these being actnully parts of such fact."—"Thus, then, however immense may be the field which the human body, in the full view of any of its devitiuous, such as cholera, may present, and however hopeless may be the attempt to travel this whole field, yet cholera is, in its very existence, one and part of the period and 'forms' of all other existences; and hence, the almost—nay, actual—certainty of hope of the presence *at hand to us* of the means, mineral elements, or organic mutters, lost or wanting, in the evolving rate or stream of life or death—in the compounds of matter of which the animal frame is composed."

D. F. C.

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ART. XXX.—*Atlas of Surgical and Topographical Anatomy*. By B. J. BÉRAUD, Surgeon and Professor to the Maternity Hospital of Paris, Ex Prosecutor and Assistant Anatomist to the Faculty of Medicine of Paris, etc. etc. Illustrated by one hundred Plates drawn from Nature, by M. Bion. Translated by Robert Thomas Holmes, M.R.C.S., Eng. Parts 1, 2, and 3, Royal 8vo. London: H. Baillière, 1866.

THIS work is intended to illustrate the surgical and regional anatomy of the human body; and is to be completed in ten monthly parts, each part containing ten plates with descriptive text. The first three parts, which we have received, contain thirty plates devoted to the several regions of the head and neck.

The drawings, and the engraving of the plates are extremely well executed, the several parts are represented with unusual distinctness, and the colouring is most artistic. Besides the explanatory text there is given with each figure a brief notice of the relations of the region to pathology and operative surgery.

We can strongly recommend this work for its accuracy, convenient size, and beauty of execution to both students and practitioners. When the complete work is received we shall be able to give a fuller notice of it.

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ART. XXXI.—*A Practical Treatise on the Diseases of the Testis and of the Spermatic Cord and Scrotum*. By T. B. CURLING, F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital, &c. With numerous wood engravings. Third Edition. Revised and enlarged. 8vo. pp. 609. London: John Charchill & Sons, 1866.

TEN years have elapsed since the publication of the second edition of Mr. Curling's classical treatise, during which the author has enjoyed extensive opportunities of improving his knowledge of the diseases of the testicle and its appendages, and the fruits of this experience are incorporated in the present edition. Not only has the whole work been thoroughly revised and additions made to most of the chapters, but the subjects of inguinal hydrocele, sterility, and congenital vascular tumours of the scrotum, are introduced and ably discussed.

Inguinal hydrocele and congenital vascular tumours of the scrotum are briefly treated, but much valuable and instructive information in regard to them is furnished.

Sterility in the male, a subject rarely treated of, Mr. C. discusses with great ability. It is usually confounded with impotence; recent researches, however, have shown that a want of aptitude to impregnate may co-exist with the capacity for sexual intercourse; or, in other words, that man is subject to *sterility* independent of *impotency*. Sterility arises, according to Mr. C., from the following causes: 1. Malposition of the testicles. 2. Obstruction in the excretory ducts of the testicle. 3. Impediments to the escape of the seminal fluid. 4. Aspermatismus, or non-ejaculation.

Mr. Curling's observations on spermatorrhœa are very instructive and sensible.