

one character (morphological) without consideration of the reciprocal relations between the cells themselves and the cells to the fibers, briefly, the architectonic, which as is well known, shows a clear differentiation in connection with the physiological signification, a fact already demonstrated by the studies of Campbell, Brodmann, Mauss, Vogt, Florez and others. The most important conclusion of this study is that in the thalamus, cells of motor type are not found, with the exception of some isolated ones in the hypothalamus; to this conclusion, however, are opposed the results of physiology, which states that in the experimental destruction of the motor cortex many fibers going from this cortex to the thalamus are found degenerated (Sachs).

Nevertheless, the work of M. is highly interesting and very carefully done. The initial idea on which the whole study is based, that is, the nuclear and functional differentiation based upon the cellular types, merits very careful study because, being true, as is the case with the motor cells of Betz in the motor cortex of the brain, it will surely bring out numerous facts for the further knowledge of the nervous centers.

G. R. LAFORA (Madrid) (Washington).

THE MORPHOLOGY OF THE HUMAN BODY. By Achille de Giovanni. Translated from the second Italian edition, by John Joseph Eyre. New York, Rebman Co. Pp. 436; price \$4.50.

This work is an effort to emphasize morphology as a basis of scientific medicine. Without taking into consideration the theory that in the last analysis, function and structure are expressions of the same underlying thing, the effort of the author is a distinct departure from the more usual attempts to found pathology upon changes akin to the chemical.

After a somewhat diffuse introduction, the author takes up the inductive portion of the work dealing with the bony, vascular, nervous, muscular and nutritive systems considerably in detail, giving a wealth of anthropometric information, with all sorts of observation upon the relative sizes of parts of the body and its organs.

The final portion of the book is an attempt to correlate all this information, and to define, upon it as a basis, three morphological types, or combinations, as he calls them. These types are then considered from various points of view, particularly the modification that may occur in different directions, or, as he calls it—the mutability of the combination. These modifications are considered with reference to the separate organs, with reference to the general condition of the individual, to special diseases, and to general morbidity.

The book, as a whole, is a healthy attempt to get away from such generalities as constitution, temperament, individuality and predisposition. The author rightly lays stress upon the fact that such words are merely expressions of ignorance, and has endeavored to define morphological types with specific, functional and morbid tendencies. The whole work is filled with details of information, and is very suggestive.

WHITE.