LIBRARY TABLE.

WE have before us the *Journal of State Medicine*, being the third number of the first volume. It is the official quarterly journal of the British Institute of Public Health, and contains a number of important papers. Dr. H. Mansfield Robinson, LL.D., whose official connexion with the important and populous vestry of Shoreditch lends weight to his remarks on Legal Hints on Sanitary Inspection, treats his subject with acumen, and in an interesting manner. The Medical Importance of Ptomaines is discussed by Dr. A. C. Farquharson, who instances cases in which the gravest decisions depended upon a scientific investigation of great subtlety and difficulty. Dr. C. R. C. Tichborne, Ph.D., discusses the value of Sulphite of Zinc as an Antiseptic in Typhoid Fever and Cholera. Mr. Miller, M.B., D.P.H. Glas., joins issue with those who maintain that the early stages of pulmonary phthisis are due to tuberculosis, and emphasises the value of climatic and vital considerations. The remaining original articles are: A Brief Account of some of the Most Recent Bacteriological Investigations, by E. J. McWeeney, M.A., M.D.; and an Abstract of a Paper on Mental and Moral Evolution, by Miss Charlotte A. Smith. The journal is under the able editorship of Dr. Wm. R. Smith, who combines medical and legal qualifications for the task. The production of the work reflects credit on the F. A. Davis Company of London and Philadelphia, who are the publishers.

IN the *Bacteriological World* for November and December, 1892, there is published amongst the original articles a continuation of M. Metchnikoff's study of immunity, in which he describes the resistance of rabbits treated with serum and gives the conclusions already recorded in the "Annales de l'Institut Pasteur." Dr. Kellogg concludes his article on the new chemistry of the stomach. He gives a form of table employed in his experiments which may be of use to those who are working at the subject. Dr. R. Riley's contribution to the study of progressive muscular atrophy deals with the nerve and vascular changes in the parts affected. The remainder of the number is made up of translations; one on the glycogenic function of the liver, by Dr. Dujardin-Beaumetz, is of interest, especially when taken in connexion with the work that has recently been done with regard to various forms of diabetes. In the part of the journal devoted to technique we find a new method of staining spores described, and there is an account of Kühne's anise oil as an embedding material for use with the freezing microtome, the great advantage of this method being that this oil becomes solid at comparatively high temperatures, so that very great reduction of heat is not necessary and the tissues are not destroyed or expanded.

The Journal of Physiology. Edited by Professors FOSTER, RUTHERFORD, BURDON SANDERSON and SCHAFER. Vol. XIV., No. 1. Cambridge: Engraving Company. January, 1893.—This number contains the following articles: 1. W. H. Howell and G. C. Huber: A Physiological, Histological and Clinical Study of the Degeneration and Regeneration in peripheral Nerve Fibres after severance of their connexions with the Nerve Centres. 2. C. S. Sherrington and S. Monckton Copeman: Variations experimentally produced in the Specific Gravity of the Blood. 3. Warren P. Lombard: Alterations in the Strength which occur during fatiguing Voluntary Muscular Work. The Editors of this journal append a notice that, owing to the increasing supply of material accepted as suitable for insertion, the volume will no longer be an annual one, but will be complete when about 500 pages have been issued.

The Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science. No. CXXXV. Edited by Professors LANKESTER, SEDGWICK, MARSHALL and WELDON. London: J. & A. Churchill. January, 1893.—This part contains the following Memoirs: 1. On the Relationships and Rôle of the Archoplasm during

Mitosis in the larval Salamander, by John E. S. Moore; with a plate. 2. On the Occurrence of embryonic Fission in Cyclostomatous Polyzoa, by Sidney F. Harmer; with three plates. 3. Two new Genera and some new Species of Earthworms, by Frank E. Beddard; with two plates. 4. Observations on the Gregarines of Holothurians, by E. A. Minchin; with two plates. 5. A new Sporozoon in Amphioxus, by E. C. Pollard; with a plate. 6. Studies on the Protochordata, by Arthur Willey; with a plate.

Archives of Surgery. By JONATHAN HUTCHINSON, LL.D., F.R.S., F.R.C.S., Consulting Surgeon to the London Hospital, and late President of the Royal College of Surgeons. Vol. IV., No. 15. London: J. & A. Churchill. January, 1893.—This number is of the same character as those which have preceded it. It is full of suggestions, brief clinical records and rare cases, and testifies to the immense fund of good clinical observations the distinguished author has accumulated.

New Inventions.

NEW ÉCRASEUR SNARE.

THERE are so many nasal snares that another would at first sight appear like the proverbial straw, nevertheless I venture to submit this one, of which the accompanying engraving and account give a fairly accurate idea to my professional brethren. The advantages I claim for this snare I have grouped under the following six heads:—1. It can be held and worked by the same hand. 2. The wire loop, when surrounding tissue is to be removed, can be quickly made smaller by the index finger drawing the retractor towards the finger rest, whilst the écraseur wheel, which is kept in contact with the barrel by the thumb of the hand holding the snare, can be made to begin work so soon as the loop firmly

grasps the growth. 3. The finger rest enables the operator to give additional steadiness to the instrument, and it has been so made as to represent two lateral rests between which the retractor can pass. The metal part of the handle has also been perforated so as to allow of the retractor and carrier passing to the end of the barrel. 4. The screw of the carrier bites sufficiently firmly to hold the wire whilst passing through the densest tissues. The nut of the carrier is worked by a key which is kept, when not in use, in the handle. 5. As the point is separate from the barrel any form can be used. 6. An uninterrupted view of the nose, throat or ear can be obtained during operation on either of these organs, as the snare is worked entirely from its under surface. In conclusion, I would thank Messrs. Mayer and Meltzer, of Great Portland-street, for the able manner in which they have carried out my instructions.

GRIFFITH CHARLES WILKIN.

THE "PLATINUM" ANTI-CORSET.

THE "Platinum" Anti-Corset which has been submitted to us by the firm of Herts, Son and Co., Limited, Ridgmount-street, Tottenham-court-road, is the result of an endeavour to combine all the elements of a corset as regards providing rational support to the figure *without* compression. It consists practically of a bodice made in either cotton or woollen materials and fitted with "platinum" bones arranged in longitudinal casings to permit of easy removal for washing. There is no busk or piece of steel at the front, and therefore one of the greatest dangers of the ordinary corset is removed. It buttons at the neck like a bodice, and