ART. XX.—*Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Physic; delivered at King's College, London.* By THOMAS WATSON, M. D., F. R. C. P., &c. &c. Third American from the last London edition. Revised, with Additions, by D. FRANCIS COSTE, M. D., Lec. Coll. Phys., &c. &c. Philadelphia: Lea & Blanchard, 1847: pp. 1040, 8vo.

When it first appeared, we expressed the very high value we entertained of this work. (See number for January, 1844, p. 183.) Its merits are now so generally known, and universally acknowledged, that it would be entirely supererogatory to say a word in its praise. No work, on the practice of medicine, that has ever appeared, probably, has received so generally the suffrages of the medical press; and the rapid exhaustion of two very large editions of it, unequivocally shows the estimate in which it is held by the professional public. That it will long maintain its position, we venture little in asserting.

We must not omit to say, that the editor's additions, as might be expected from his well-established reputation and extensive experience, are judicious and valuable. He has given an account of one or two of our endemic diseases, and supplied fuller descriptions of several affections, which, being much less prevalent in Great Britain than in this country, are not so fully treated of by the author, as would be desired here; and, finally, he has pointed out such modifications of treatment, as experience has shown to be best adapted for the cure of diseases, as they occur in this country. In short, the aim of the editor has been to render the work a safe guide to the American practitioner.

ART. XXI.—*Essays, Anatomical, Zoological, Surgical, and Miscellaneous, reprinted from the Philosophical Transactions, Transactions of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of London, Dublin Philosophical Journal, Dublin Hospital Reports, Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Dublin Medical Press.* By ARTHUR JACOB, M. D., F. R. C. S. J., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology, and Lecturer on Comparative Anatomy in the Royal College of Surgery in Ireland, &c. &c. Dublin, 1845: pp. 174, 8vo. Plates IV.

The name of Professor Jacob is inseparably associated with ophthalmological science, by his discovery of a new membrane in the eye, and his numerous contributions to the pathology and therapeutics of this important organ. The volume before us, contains twelve essays. Having been originally published in transactions and journals of limited circulation, the author has correctly thought that it would be useful to give them in their present form. The papers on the anatomy of the eye contain the results of dissections conducted with great care, for the purpose of removing doubts and correcting errors, and are deserving of attentive study. The essay on the diseases of the eye, as a guide in the study of pathology, is also worthy of particular attention. The aim of the author is to restore this department of surgery to its original place in medical practice, and to prove that the study of diseases of the eye is eminently calculated to improve our knowledge of the nature of disease in other parts of the animal frame, and therefore that it is a branch of medical education worthy of particular encouragement. He briefly points out the value of the information to be derived from observation of the functions of the different parts, composing the organ of vision in a healthy state, with a view to the investigation of the phenomena of life in the animal economy in general, and explains why it is that the parts of this organ are particularly suited to that object; and then shows that it is from observation of the eye in a state of disease, and especially in a state of inflammation, that information still more valuable, may be acquired.

Professor Jacob has laboured long, and, we believe, successfully to establish the importance of ophthalmic medicine, and we wish some one of equal ability would arise in this country to advocate the same cause. It is impossible, however, that students should appreciate the value of this department of our sciences, so long as they are dependent, for all their knowledge regarding it, on the general course

on surgery, in which it is farcically pretended to be taught in two or three lectures, instead of being fully developed in a separate course, as is the case in most of the German, and some of the British schools. Chelius, in the preface to his *System of Surgery*, says, "I must not be blamed for having omitted diseases of the eye and ear, for ophthalmic surgery has attained so great importance as to require a special treatise; and, like many other teachers, I deliver a separate course of lectures on diseases of the eye and ear."¹

ART. XXII.—*On Diseases of the Skin.* By ERASMUS WILSON, F.R.S., Consulting Surgeon to the St. Pancras Infirmary, Lecturer on Anatomy and Physiology, &c. &c. Second American, from the Second London edition.

It is unnecessary to repeat the favourable opinion already expressed (number for July, 1843, p. 170), of this work; but it is proper to state, on the appearance of a new edition, that this has been much improved, and has the farther advantage over its predecessor, of being illustrated with accurate, and most exquisitely finished coloured delineations. The plates, eight in number, each represent a group of diseases, and are so arranged that no less than sixty-one subjects are represented. Both as a guide for the diagnoses of the diseases of the skin, and for the treatment of these often troublesome affections, we know of no work which we can more highly recommend to the practitioner and student.

ART. XXIII.—*Outlines of the Veins and Lymphatics: with short Descriptions. Designed for the Use of Medical Students.* By JOHN NEILL, M.D., Demonstrator of Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania, &c. &c. Philada.: Ed. Barrington and Geo. D. Haswell, 1847, pp. 29. Plates VIII.

This volume is designed as a companion to the two, of a similar kind, on the arteries and nerves, noticed in our numbers for Oct. 1845, p. 425, and for April, 1846, p. 438. As in the former publications, the principal vessels only are given, and the names are placed upon or near them, so as to avoid the inconvenience of the usual mode of reference. Like its predecessors, this volume is a convenient aid to the student just commencing the study of anatomy.