logical character is as yet but imperfectly understood, while their treatment is consequently uncertain, or at best merely tentative. For the proper study of the entire list of "nervous disorders" the author of the present treatise—already favourably known as a careful medical observer—has had ample opportunities, which he has, it must be admitted, faithfully improved. Of his clinical observations and experience, the work before us is, strictly speaking, a faithful record. The points which he esteems to have most bearing on practice, are chiefly the recognition of primary paresis (palsy) of nervous centres, and its distinction from reflex paralysis; the numerous illustrations of vaso-motor nerve disorders; the theory of inhibitory action; the remarkable affinity existing between paralysis, spasm, anaesthesia, and neuralgia; the different quality of nervous disorder, apparently of the same kind in different instances; the intimate relation of neuralgia, in most instances to debility, and the importance of an accurate adjustment of remedies to each individual case of disease.

We most heartily agree with Dr. J. as to the deep interest and importance of the several points above indicated. They are all of them ably exposed by him.

Taken as a whole, the work before us furnishes a short but reliable account of the pathology and treatment of a class of very common but certainly highly obscure disorders. The advanced student will find it a rich mine of valuable facts, while the medical practitioner will derive from it many a suggestive hint to aid him in the diagnosis of "nervous cases," and in determining the true indications for their amelioration or cure.

D. F. C.

ART. XXXII.—*A Practical Treatise on Diseases of the Skin.* By J. MOONE NELIGAN, M. D., etc. Fifth American from the second revised and enlarged Dublin edition. By T. W. BELCHER, M. A., M. D., Duh., etc. etc. etc. *Ratione et Experientia.* 12mo. pp. 462. Philadelphia, 1866: H. C. Lea.

This edition of Dr. Neligan's well-known treatise has been published since the author's death, under the editorial supervision of Dr. Belcher, a former pupil of the deceased author, and now physician to the Dublin Dispensary for skin diseases. The editor has very faithfully performed his task, having brought up to the present time the account given in the treatise of a most important but little understood class of maladies. It is true, as Dr. B. remarks, that, since the appearance in 1852 of the first edition of Dr. N.'s treatise, "a great change has taken place in the relation of *dermatology* to medicine. Numerous works of value have been published; important discoveries have been made, and papers without number on isolated cases, or classes of skin disease, have continually issued from the medical press. Thus the subject has taken a high professional rank, and has been completely rescued from the shade under which it had fallen, from its having been made a ready means of ill-gotten gain by the quack and the impostor."

To the text of the first edition, which has undergone a careful revision, have been added the discoveries made since its appearance, and the opinions advanced by recognized authorities, as to the causation, nature, and treatment of cutaneous affections; with the result of the experience of the editor whether it particularly confirmed or differed from that of Dr. Neligan.

Considerable additions have been made by Dr. Belcher to the first chapter on classification; chiefly as regards the modern nosologies of Hardy, Hebra, Buchanan, and others. He has also added derivations and meanings of technical terms, with their synonyms. References to Dr. Neligan's *Atlas of Cutaneous Diseases*, as also to the plates of Cazenave and Hebra. References to Macnamara's sixth edition of Dr. Neligan's *Materia Medica*. Quotations from and references to authorities in every case, particularly where the full description of the subject is excluded by reason of the concise method of the work. Explanations of the peculiar modes of treatment, and, in some cases, the prescriptions of the best English and foreign dermatologists. Translations are given throughout of the prescriptions embraced in the work, into the technical language of

the British Pharmacopœia. A *posological* table is added of the most important, and mostly poisonous remedies used in the treatment of cutaneous diseases; together with a copious table of contents, and a bibliographical index of the leading authorities adduced.

Notices of the following, among other cutaneous diseases, occur for the first time in the present edition: namely—rubeola, scarlatina, variola and its allies; furunculus, anthrax, pustula maligna, lepra hebræorum, elephantiasis, morphia, frambesia, morbus tauricus, Aleppo evil, ngerengere, pellagra, morbus Addisonii.

Considerable additions have been made to the chapter on parasitic diseases, or dermatophytæ, and also to the chapters on diseases of the hair and nails, and to that on therapeutics.

The general index is very full, and comprises the cutaneo-nosological synonyms used by ancient and modern writers in England and other countries. Although the account given in this work of the different cutaneous diseases is a very concise one, a bare outline, it is, nevertheless, very uniformly clear and accurate, furnishing a fair exposition of the present condition of the knowledge and experience of our profession in respect to the pathology and management of these affections. From it the student will gain such preliminary instruction as will enable him to profit by the study of the more extended treatises and monographs on skin diseases that have or may appear, while the practitioner is directed to those sources from whence he may acquire reliable information on these affections, generally, or any one of them which may from any cause at the time claim his attention.

D. F. C.

ART. XXXIII.—*Practical Therapeutics, considered chiefly with reference to Articles of the Materia Medica.* By EDWARD JOHN WARING, F. R. C. S., F. L. S., Surgeon in her Majesty's Indian Army. From the second London edition. 8vo. pp. 815. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston, 1866.

MR. WARING has produced a book which entitles him to the thanks of students, as well as of all who need a work on therapeutics, in which each item is very briefly and authoritatively described. An index of diseases, in which will be found indicated the medicines which have been used or are applicable to each affection named, and also an index of medicines, &c., in addition to the alphabetical arrangement of the whole text, render reference to the volume easy and satisfactory.

The work is divided into an introduction, in which the art of prescribing medicines, their doses at different ages, and under various circumstances, are briefly considered; a first part, in which the articles of the materia medica, alphabetically arranged, are treated of chiefly in reference to their supposed curative properties in an empirical sense, and a second part, in which the therapeutic qualities of classes of medicines, as stimulants, &c., as well as the curative influence of certain remedies, as bathing, electricity, &c., also alphabetically arranged, are discussed.

Mr. Waring's mode of treating each article may be understood from the following extract, selected because it is short:—

"300. *APIOL. APIOLUM.* A peculiar principle of the seeds of *Petroselinum sativum*, or Common Parsley, obtained by treating them with alcohol at 158° to 176° F. It occurs in the form of a yellowish oily liquid, and with an odour somewhat resembling the powdered seeds, and an acrid, piquant taste. It is soluble in alcohol, ether, and chloroform.

"*Med. Prop. and Action.* Tonic, anti-periodic and emmenagogue. Joret and Homolle found that, when taken in doses of gr. viij–xv, it occasioned slight cerebral excitement, similar to that produced by coffee, together with epigastric warmth. In doses of ʒss–ʒj, it caused vertigo, tinnitus aurium, headache, &c., similar to the effects produced by a strong dose of Quinine. Occasionally, its use was followed by nausea, colic, and bilious diarrhœa.

"*Dose*, gutt. viij–xv in syrup.