BOOK REVIEWS.

Le Pharynx. Anatomie et Physiologie. (Anatomy and Physiology of the Pharynx). By C. CHAUVÉAU. With 165 illustrations. Paris: Librairie J. B. Baillière et Fils. 19 Rue Hautefeuille. 1901.

We are a little alarmed at noting that this octavo book of four hundred pages is only the first of four volumes to be devoted entirely to the pharynx. The present work is completely given up to the anatomy and physiology of the region. The second volume will deal with examination, pathology and general therapeutics; while the two last volumes will be devoted to medical and surgical considerations. Such a programme fills us with awe and consternation, for at this rate we may find ourselves, in a few years, compelled to wade through eight volumes on the larynx and possibly a dozen on the nose!

We would beg writers who think of keeping up this length of literature to remember the saying of Hippocrates, which is now truer than ever it was: "Ars longa, vita brevis."

While trusting that few will attempt to rival Dr. Chauveau we must heartily accord him our admiration and congratulations on the work he has produced. The list of literature which he has consulted alone covers more than thirty pages, and the whole subject of the anatomy and physiology of the pharynx is treated with a thoroughness which is not to be found elsewhere. The author would hardly expect us to recommend his book as one to be read through lightly, but as a book of reference it is certain to take a prominent place in the library of the specialist.

STCLAIR THOMSON.

Maladies du Pharynx. (A Treatise on Diseases of the Pharynx). By E. ESCAT. Paris: G. Carré & C. Naud, Publishers, 3 Rue Racine. 1901. Price, 16 francs.

The author of this handsome volume is already well known by his numerous contributions to the literature of the specialty. These have been characterized by their originality as well as by the breadth of view of the writer, and the work before us shows the advantages which accrue to a practitioner in a provincial center and which help to balance the gains of living in a large city. In the latter the field of the specialist tends to get more and more restricted, so that his interests and studies are concentrated in advancing a few well worn subjects. It is evident that Dr. Eschat, in his practice at Toulouse, has opportunities of studying diseases and performing operations which, in a capital, are scattered amongst other hands besides those of the laryngologist. The circumstances also necessitate a resourcefulness and originality of idea which are often wanting in those who can share their responsibility, or who are hampered by the traditions of the schools.

As might be expected, the text is not burdened with numerous references, or by the discussion of opposing views. It is well written, well arranged, and illustrated by several new, original and really helpful illustrations. As in many French works the subject of tonsillitis is treated with a fullness to which we are not accustomed, and if the classification and subdivision of all the varieties of angina do not meet with general approval, at least the description will arouse considerable interest.

We should hardly have thought that pharyngeal diseases would have warranted a large volume in 8vo of 576 pages and 150 illustrations. However, a perusal of Dr. Eschat's book has convinced us that he is amply justified by the result. It should appeal to family physicians, who generally see the first stage of pharyngeal affections and frequently the whole course; but laryngologists will not fail to derive pleasure and profit from these well-written pages. The author might well have adopted the motto of Moritz Schmidt, "Aus der Praxis für die Praxis."

The treatise is preceded by an interesting preface by Lubet-Barbon.

STCLAIR THOMSON.