

## Book Reviews

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*Le Syndrome Urinaire dans la Scarlatine et la Diphtherie de l'enfance.* Par le DR. RAOUL LABBE. (Paris, 1903, Jules Rousset.)

This exhaustive study of the urine in scarlatina and diphtheria occupies over 200 pages and has apparently been most carefully done. The conclusions to which the author has arrived occupy but four pages at the end of the book, the bulk of it being occupied by a careful description of the manner of experimentation and methods of investigation employed. A number of tables are annexed which give in detail the findings in distinct cases. In each case the author has investigated the weight of the body, the size, the quantity of urine, the density, reaction, total urea and azotal, uric acid, phosphates, chlorides, renal permeability, cryoscopy, elimination of chlorides given in food, the diazo reaction, urinary pigments, and presence of albumen. While the literature on the study of urine of children is large a great deal of the results published are not so exact nor so carefully done as are those of Dr. Labbe. The literature on the urine in scarlet fever and diphtheria is comparatively small and this work forms a very valuable addition to it. We take pleasure in recommending this work to those interested.

W. R. D.

*Fourth Annual Report of the State Board of Insanity of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for the year ending September 30, 1902.* (Boston: Wright and Potter Printing Co., State Printers, 1903.)

This report is of great interest to those concerned in the state care of the insane. It first refers to the overcrowding in hospitals and discusses means of providing the greater accommodation which is so urgently needed. The solution which is advocated necessitates the division of the insane into three classes. First, a small number, the acute class, which shall be treated in a hospital where they can be studied in a scientific manner, given proper treatment, and have the best opportunities for cure. Second, the safe custody and humane care of the dangerous and infirm in an asylum. Third, the restoration of the quiet, harmless and able-bodied to natural conditions of living and their training into habits of industry and usefulness in colony. The details of this plan are elaborated and it seems to be quite an ideal one. Estimates required for the various state institutions follow and brief résumés of the occurrences since the last report. The boarding-out system is fully reported, and a number of tables give financial and statistical details.

W. R. D.