

A MANUAL OF DERMATOLOGY. By A. R. ROBINSON, M.B., L.R.C.R. & S., Edin. New York: Birmingham & Company. Cloth, 647 pp., illustrated. Price, \$5.00.

This admirable work commends itself to the student and practitioner by its clearness of style, its orderly arrangement, and its full and explicit directions respecting treatment.

There is a marked resemblance among modern text-books of dermatology, and while this evidently belongs to the common species, it presents marked individual characteristics. The study of the cutaneous diseases affords an opportunity to follow the minute details of the morbid processes from the commencement of the attack until its termination in resolution or permanent lesion. The author has taken advantage of this opportunity and gives his readers an insight into the histology of many of the diseases considered.

We sincerely hope that he will prosecute his plan of a more voluminous and original work, but, however necessary that may be to the specialist, we feel assured that the present publication will fully meet the needs of the general practitioner. C. E. W.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE COLORADO STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY HELD IN DENVER, JUNE, 1884. Paper, 155 pages with eight climatic charts.

These transactions show a commendable activity on the part of the profession in Colorado.

A paper by S. E. Solly, M.D., on the influence of the local climate on Bright's disease presents as its chief physiological points, the fact that the urine in that dry region is somewhat concentrated, and as its conclusions "That acute nephritis is not especially induced by the climate, but having arisen, is in its onset aggravated by it," and respecting chronic nephritis, that the tendency of the climate is toward its cure. He does not consider that either of these propositions is fully established.

The climatic charts, two for each of the four seasons of the year, 1882, show respectively the absolute humidity in grains to the cubic foot of air and mean cloudiness in tenths, for the whole country. They are issued by the society and published at its suggestion and expense by the war department and should be seen to be appreciated.

Their most salient features are given in the following quotation from the report of the society's committee: "The extremes of dryness and moisture as indicated by this actual humidity are about as follows for the different seasons. The elevated western interior as compared with Florida and the extreme south of Texas, has one-fourth as much atmospheric vapor in spring, one-third as much in summer, and one-fifth as much in autumn, as the latter, while in winter the central portion of the country from Denver north and northeast has less than one-sixth the actual humidity that exists in the moistest portions of the south (Florida)."

The sunniest portion of the United States for the whole year, is the eastern parts of Southern and Middle California, from Red Bluff south, taking in the Death Valley, where there is less than one-tenth of

cloudiness, while the cloudiest section of the whole country is in the Ohio Valley and great interior lake region, when over seven-tenths of the time there is cloudiness during the winter. It is in winter that the greatest contrast is to be noticed between the elevated interior and southwestern sections on the one hand, and the whole eastern half of our country and the northwestern corner on the other hand, bringing out into merited prominence for sunshine and as winter homes for invalids, the eastern central portion of Colorado, and much of New Mexico, Arizona and Southern California."

M. H. Sears, M.D., discussed the treatment of morphine poisoning and recommended the intravenous injection of milk. In both of the written cases which were of a desperate character, the injection was followed by improvement in the symptoms and in one case by recovery. In the successful case the patient was a male, eight ounces were injected in about 15 minutes. Some blood was allowed to escape before the milk was injected. C. E. W.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL FACULTY OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND. Eighty-sixth Annual Session. Held at Baltimore, Md., April, 1884.

This contribution to medical literature contains very little trash. In glancing over its pages the following items have attracted our attention.

The recommendation of C. W. Chancellor, M.D., respecting the sanitary needs of the poor, expresses the hope that in time the laboring classes may be in possession of better dwellings, and recommends means for securing this and other desirable results.

A paper on "Preventable Blindness," by Samuel Theobald, M.D., particularly cautions the profession respecting the several varieties of ophthalmia, including sympathetic, and glaucoma.

F. Donaldson, M.D., respecting the influence of lung retractility, concludes that it is "not only a powerful physiological force in respiration, but that it also produces modification of a decided character in diseases of the chest." This latter is of particular importance in making a physical diagnosis.

C. E. W.

THE ELEMENTS OF PHYSIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY. By T. CRANSTOUN CHARLES, M.D., Philadelphia. H. C. Lea's Son & Co.

For years Germany has taken the lead in the advanced study of the purely scientific branches of medicine, and the laboratories of the great universities have pushed research to an extreme scarcely possible anywhere else. The names of the men at the head of these laboratories have drawn students from all parts of the world, and these students, returned to their homes, have made the works of their teachers almost as well known there as in Germany itself.

This influence first showed itself in the translations of leading German manuals, followed in time by original works formed on German models, and embracing the results of German experience.

In physiological chemistry the books of Hoppe-Seyles, Kuchne and Gorup-Besanez have been our best authorities, and any one pretending to accurate