

or additions that have been required either by alterations in the Pharmacopœias or the improvements in chemical science. To render the work more useful to the commencing chemical student, and to facilitate practical manipulations, many well chosen wood-cut illustrations (87) have been introduced. Much of the instruction in the principles of Chemical Philosophy has been revised, and dispersed under different heads appropriate observations on the same subject have been inserted, rendering these principles clearer and more impressive. Additional instruction and improved processes of analytical value have been introduced throughout, which have increased to a considerable extent the number of pages, although others have been omitted when this could be done without disadvantage to the student. Of these, Siebold's method for the detection of chlorides in the presence of bromides, and the improved processes in relation to the examination for cinchona alkaloids may be taken as examples. Finally, the index has been much enlarged, not only increasing the facilities for reference to new matter introduced, but in some degree to the original text. The style and appearance of this correspond, except in increased size, to the former American editions.

R. B.

ART. XLVI.—*Observations on Diseases of the Rectum.* By T. B. CURLING, F.R.S., Consulting Surgeon to the London Hospital. 4th edition. 8vo. pp. xvi., 244. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston, 1876.

It is now twenty-five years since the first edition of this work was issued. It has grown considerably in size and completeness, keeping pace with the enlarged experience of the author. It speaks well for the value of the treatise and for the intelligence of the medical profession, that a work on so special a subject should have reached a fourth edition. Any extended criticism of a work so stamped with approval is superfluous, and we would only suggest that Mr. Curling would do well in any future edition to elaborate the subject of recto-vaginal fistula which is here dismissed in a single brief page. His experience in a disease so annoying to the patient and so difficult of cure would be hailed with pleasure by the profession.

W. W. K.

ART. XLVII.—*Hay-Fever, or Summer Catarrh; its nature and treatment.* By GEORGE M. BEARD, A.M., M.D., Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine, etc. etc. 12mo. pp. 266. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1876.

THIS little book, extensively heralded, and anxiously looked for by many, will possess much interest for the large army of martyrs to the complaint of which it treats. It contains the record of some facts which may prove of value to those physicians, whose opportunities for observing this affection have been limited. For one, however, who, like the writer of this notice, has had a life-long and personal intimacy with the malady, it does not supply much that is new.

Dr. Beard claims to have established the following conclusions by his researches. First, that all the forms of summer catarrh are identical in nature. This is thought to be determined by the discovery of an intermediate form, which, confined to the month of July, supplies the missing link required to unite the rose-cold of June with the hay-fever of August. This middle variety