

tirely futile; and the army was really obliged, from exhaustion by disease, to relinquish a prominent part of the undertaking.

These are mainly the facts which are so admirably presented in this most interesting pamphlet. It is seldom in the world's history that a similar opportunity has occurred for studying, on so large a scale, the impressive results of the neglect of the principles of sanitary science. The practical lessons taught by this bitter experience should never be permitted to pass out of mind. Guided by this conviction, Surgeon-General Longmore has well succeeded in placing on record the true sanitary contrasts presented by the British and French armies in the Crimea, which will be a source of instruction, not only to the army surgeon but to the sanitarian and medical practitioner, for all time.

A short description of the outbreaks of cholera in the French and British armies during the war is furnished in an appendix. W. H. F.

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ART. XXVIII.—*Practical Pathology: a Manual for Students and Practitioners.* By G. SIMS WOODHEAD, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., Demonstrator of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, etc. etc. With 136 coloured plates. Pp. 484. Edinburgh: Young & Pentland, 1883.

THIS manual, a volume of nearly 500 pages, is designed as "a guide to the practical work involved in the study, preparation, and examination of morbid tissues." In order to make it serve this purpose, the author intends "to describe the method of making the *post-mortem* and naked-eye examinations, and of preparing the various structures for microscopic examination." This study involves the consideration of the more important changes of each organ. We are thus led to expect the essentials of a work on diagnosis in pathological anatomy, of another on microscopic technology, and of a third on pathological histology.

It is unnecessary to state that there are already excellent treatises on all these subjects, and it is quite possible for one familiar with the ground to be gone over and the needs of the student, to prepare a single volume which shall truly serve as a practical manual to fulfil the objects stated in the preface.

We doubt if the author would find it necessary or convenient, even when possible, to provide himself with the various instruments and paraphernalia recommended for making an autopsy, especially if he were to visit a private house for this purpose. Certainly the students and practitioners for whom this book is intended might be excused if they availed themselves of the suggestion that many of the instruments mentioned might be left behind. It is more important for them to know in the first place what is absolutely essential, and then to learn what may prove useful or convenient. The omission of collodion and India-rubber gloves or gauntlets from the list is notable, although he may have found them unnecessary. The constant use of the latter is not to be recommended, but their presence when needed may prove invaluable.

The sections on hardening and staining fluids are very good, special prominence being assigned to those articles which are most constantly used. All microscopical examinations by beginners, however (and it is

for them in particular that a practical manual is needed), should he made after the autopsy is finished, and preferably in a place where the examiner has leisure, instruments, and reagents.

The chapters relating to the pathological changes in the various organs are by no means of uniform merit, and it is to be regretted that exceptions have to be occasionally taken to statements made by the author. Least of all should a student be advised to form a judgment as to the condition of cloudy swelling from the examination of a hardened specimen. The colored drawing illustrating this condition in the liver is characteristic of nothing else than a cellular infiltration of Glisson's capsule. Such a condition is most suggestive of an incipient interstitial hepatitis, and, in our experience, is oftener absent than present, even in the more extreme forms of granular degeneration of the liver.

The author's ideas of fatty degeneration of the liver are not in harmony with those of other observers, when he applies the term "atrophic or wasted" to the fatty degenerated liver found as a result of poisoning with arsenic. Certainly the accompanying drawing is indicative merely of a fatty infiltration of the peripheral region of the lobules, notwithstanding the explanatory statement that a peripheral fatty degeneration accompanies the fatty infiltration.

In the recognition of fatty degeneration, as in that of cloudy swelling, the necessity of the examination of fresh specimens is not sufficiently insisted upon. The drawing given as an illustration of the fatty degeneration of the cells of the liver is by no means characteristic. The observer who obtained such results from the use of osmic acid would be justified only in the recognition of the presence of fat; the difference between such appearances and the familiar "granular corpuscle" is extreme. We notice, by the way, an ingenious treatment of this drawing, which is inverted and subsequently presented in the section on tubercle of the liver.

Dr. Woodhead adopts the prevailing French views concerning interstitial hepatitis. These are not in harmony with those of many other authorities. As his drawing of "biliary cirrhosis" is not original, it is to be presumed that his statements are not wholly based upon individual observation.

The illustration of gummosis hepatitis seems indicative of nothing else than a chronic interstitial hepatitis. Nothing is to be found suggestive of a gumma, although the author's description of this product of syphilis makes it apparent that he is familiar with the lesion in question.

In connection with his description of the "typhoid lesion" of the liver, it may be suggested that such appearances are found associated with the putrefactive changes sometimes described as emphysema of this organ. It seems not unlikely that the small, yellow specks referred to are the result of putrefactive changes which are of exceptionally early occurrence and wide distribution in the liver in cases of typhoid fever and dysentery.

Without attempting further unfavourable criticism in detail, it may be said that the work fills a certain gap, since it unites methods of examination in pathological anatomy and pathological histology. The illustrations are sumptuous with colour and very pleasing to the eye, when characteristic. They do not teach more than black and white, except, perhaps, in the case of amyloid degeneration. The colouration necessarily adds to the cost of the illustration, and it may be said that the practical needs of the student and physician as met in this book are likely to be better served and at less expense.

There are books in English which cover the entire ground, excepting the detailed application of histological methods to pathological investigations. This gap might be easily and satisfactorily filled by a translation of Friedländer's *Microscopische Technik*, which could be so amended as to include the modifications of methods devised during the past two years.

R. H. F.

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ART. XXIX.—*Contagious and Infectious Diseases; Measures for their Prevention and Arrest. Smallpox (Variola), Modified Smallpox (Varioloid), Chickenpox (Varicella), Cowpox (Variolæ Vaccinæ), Vaccination, Spurious Vaccination.* Illustrated by eight coloured plates. Circular No. 2. Prepared by JOSEPH JONES, M.D., President of the Board of Health of the State of Louisiana. 8vo., pp. 410. Baton Rouge, 1884.

THIS production covers four hundred and ten pages of closely-printed octavo, and was prepared ostensibly for the guidance of the quarantine officers and sanitary inspectors of the Board of Health of the State of Louisiana. The author states in the Preface that this work has been rendered necessary by reason of the prevalence of smallpox in the States bordering on the Mississippi River, thus placing the inhabitants of Louisiana, from her geographical position, in constant danger of infection; also because of the peculiar race-conditions of the lower sections of the Mississippi Valley, as well as the neglect of vaccination by large masses of the population, and the growth of a sentiment opposed to it on the part of both the profession and the people.

According to the author, no city upon the globe is more exposed to the introduction and spread of smallpox than New Orleans. This city contains a larger coloured population than any other in the United States, and the negroes not only neglect vaccination, but are opposed to this measure; hence New Orleans also is believed to have the largest population unprotected against smallpox. During the first eight months of 1883, 1164 persons perished from smallpox; and during that year nearly one-fourth of all the deaths which occurred in New Orleans resulted from that terrible yet preventable disease.

The opposition to vaccination is said not to be confined to the uneducated and comparatively helpless coloured race, but bitter opponents have also been found amongst the white race, and, worse still, in the ranks of the medical profession, whose efforts have thus far defeated all measures to eradicate smallpox, by opposing the enactment of either local or State laws making vaccination compulsory. The Act of 1877 empowers the Board of Health of New Orleans "to execute the necessary rules and regulations with reference to vaccination, provided that it be not made compulsory." Of course, "rules and regulations" under such limitations amount to but very little. The causes of the opposition to vaccination the author gives as follows:—

- "1. Ignorance, superstition, and prejudice.
- "2. Stupid and malicious opposition to all measures emanating from the Board of Health for the protection of the health and lives of the people.
- "3. Disbelief in the protective powers of vaccination.