

Book Reviews.

THE DIAGNOSIS OF NERVOUS AND MENTAL DISEASES. By HOWELL T. P. PERSHING, M.S., M.D., Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases in the University of Denver; Neurologist to St. Luke's Hospital; Consultant in Nervous and Mental Diseases to the Arapahoe County Hospital; Member of the American Neurological Association. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia. \$1.25.

This is a small volume constructed on practically an entirely new principle in medical diagnosis and is deserving of much attention, especially from the general practitioner. The author says that he has applied the principles of systematic science, and has devised a series of keys whereby a given lesion may be definitely located. From what we know in the systematic study of botany and of zoology such keys are not only means to an end, but are distinctly beneficial in impressing the mind of the student with broad, general lines of differentiation. Much the same purpose will be subserved by the present volume, and we welcome it as a departure from the older modes of presentation of the subject. Such a work should, we believe, be in every doctor's library, and when its reasonable price is taken into consideration there is no good reason why it should not be.

JELLIFFE.

DIAGNOSTIC DES MALADIES DE L'ENCÉPHALE. Par le Docteur Grasset. Les Actualités Médicales. J. B. Baillière et fils., Paris.

This volume of this short, serviceable and practical series of manuals is the last of three of the same author, two of which have already been noted in these columns.

In his "Clinical Anatomy of the Nervous System" and the "Diagnosis of the Diseases of the Spinal Cord," Dr. Grasset outlined his general plan of procedure. For the diseases of the brain as for those of the cord, similar modes of description have been adopted.

He outlines in some detail the main syndromes of encephalic lesions, with the paralyses, convulsions, contractures, and anesthetics. Following this is a chapter on diagnosis of organic hemiplegia, another on central lesions of the visual apparatus; and others on the control of orientation and equilibration, the functions of language and its abnormalities, aphasia, paraphasia, anarthria, dysarthria, etc.

Taken all in all the volume is a concise and handy book for reference and for suggestive ideas.

JELLIFFE.

EPILEPSY AND OTHER CHRONIC CONVULSIVE DISEASES. THEIR CAUSES, SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENT. By Sir WILLIAM GOWERS, M.D., F.R., C.P., F.R.S. Second Edition. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia.

In all particulars, save that of its general character, this book is a new one. The ease and grace shown in the descriptive passages in the first edition, are here the same, but there is a great