

hay-fever patient, also what I consider harmful to that patient. I have yet to find a hay-fever patient at any period with normal nostrils, although I often find them with nothing more abnormal than a few irritable areas. I have yet to hear of a single patient whom I have discharged—and they are many—who has had a recurrence.

In my opinion a nostril is not normal if it is capable of establishing a contact area, especially below its median line; further, a nostril is not normal which contains a single irritable area. If I can find a contact area in the nostril of a hay-fever patient, at any other period than his hay-fever period, for the purpose of diagnosis, or if that patient reports to me when he has a "cold in his head," that I may observe where his areas of contact are, I obliterate them when quiescent, either surgically or through cauterization. If I examine the patient during his periodic attack for the first time I advise immediate operation when necessary. I remove what I consider necessary at any point in any nostril, and this without the slightest fear of establishing atrophic areas, since I know my patient is going to become a normal breather. I fully appreciate that indiscriminate cutting would prove disastrous, but if we use a little common sense, backed by experience and some originality, and depend less on the general run of text-books whose authors copy one from another treatment that a school boy with a rudimentary knowledge of physiology should deem absurd, oft-times treatment handed down for generations, we will prove ourselves worthy of the respect of the general public.

We will accomplish much if, instead of waiting for immunizing serums to do the work for us which we are too lazy to do ourselves, we awaken to the fact that Nature stands willing to furnish us a power to resist not only hay fever, but all other affections of the breathing tract when once the upper breathing tract is as nearly normal as possible.

Dr. Roy further states: "After a thorough trial of this method, with the hearty coöperation of my patients, I have not been able to secure the results claimed by Dr. Fitzgerald." My advice to Dr. Roy, whom I believe to be a conscientious and painstaking rhinologist, is to become more familiar with my method, and then to give it a thorough trial to prove to his own satisfaction that we have found "the light which will lead us out of the darkness and gloom" for which he writes he is waiting.

W. H. FITZGERALD.

Treatment of Hay Fever by Dunbar's Remedies (Pollantin).

LA JUNTA, COLO., Aug. 22, 1906.

To the Editor:—I have read with interest the reports made through THE JOURNAL on the use of pollantin in hay fever. My experience has been very limited; I have never used it until within the last two months. Four cases treated resulted as follows:

1. A very aggravated case, in an aged person, who every year suffers intensely. The relief from the eye symptoms was immediate. For the nasal symptoms, which were but slightly relieved, a weak solution of adrenalin was ordered (this previously had given to this patient relief for a few moments only) to be followed by the pollantin. Relief was very marked and three weeks later patient reported herself as being more comfortable than she had ever dared hope to be.

2. First attack, in a person who has resided here several years. Eye symptoms predominated. Relief was very rapid. This may not have been a true case of hay fever.

3. This man suffers severely every season with well-marked symptoms. He thought that he got a little relief.

4. Patient two years from the East, who never had an attack while here. Hay fever came in the first year of his residence here. No relief.

In these cases no attempt was made to treat any abnormal systemic conditions, nor were the proprietor's directions as to sleeping with closed windows, etc., followed. The preparation used was the powder, and the fall variety. The originators are fairly conservative in their claims as set forth in the literature, but the way in which the preparation is marketed will soon put it out of the hands of physicians and into the hands of the laity.

E. GARD EDWARDS, M.D.

Book Notices

ECZEMA. A Consideration of Its Course, Diagnosis and Treatment Embracing Many Points of Practical Importance, and Containing 146 Prescriptions, Illustrating Dosage in Local Applications. By Samuel H. Brown, M.D., Assistant Dermatologist, Philadelphia Hospital, etc. Cloth. Pp. 105. Price, \$1.00. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1906.

In the first 28 pages the author considers briefly the varieties, etiology, pathology, symptoms and diagnosis of this disease. The other 71 pages are devoted to treatment. Instead of generalizing, the author gives prescriptions for both local and general treatment.

MILITARY HYGIENE. By Robert Caldwell, F.R.C.S., D.P.H., Lieutenant-Colonel Royal Army Medical Corps; formerly Medical Officer in Charge District Laboratory, Meerit; Member of Committee on Field Sanitation in Connection with Surgeon-General's Report on South African Campaign; Medical Officer in Charge, District Laboratory and Isolation Hospital, First Army Corps. New York: William Wood & Co. 1905.

The object of the book, as the author states, is to give "a short account of those principles of sanitation which most nearly affect the soldier in his every-day life." Of course, it does not go so deeply into details as the encyclopedic work of Munson, but it is in the main accurate, and the advice given will prove valuable both to the junior and senior officers. The author seems to be a little too conservative in certain matters, such as that of the use of kerosene in marshes, the employment of mosquito nettings, the practicability of sterilization of water by boiling, etc.

THE OPHTHALMOSCOPE AND HOW TO USE IT. With Colored Illustrations. Descriptions and Treatment of the Principal Diseases of the Fundus. By J. Thornton, A.M., M.D. 13 Illustrations and 12 Colored Plates. Cloth. Pp. 298. Price, \$2.50. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1906.

This may be described as a condensed text-book. While avoiding long mathematical calculations, it leaves little to desire in the matter of clearness of text or illustration. The ten chapters treat of the ophthalmoscope, optics, anatomy and anomalies of the eye, the normal eye ground, structural changes in disease, the vision, retinal vessels, diseases of the retina, of the optic nerve, and of the choroid. Besides numerous figures in the text, it contains twelve excellent colored plates of the fundus in health and in a variety of diseases of the retina and other structures.

A TEXT-BOOK OF HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY, Including a Section on Physiologic Apparatus. By A. P. Brubaker, A.M., M.D. Second Edition. Revised and Enlarged, with Colored Plates and 356 Illustrations. Cloth. Pp. 715. Price, \$4.00. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Sons & Co., 1905.

The second edition of this work is improved by thorough revision of the sections on the chemistry of the proteids, the chemistry of digestion, the movements of the intestines, the production of lymph, the nerve mechanism of the heart, and the physiology of vision. In the section on the movements of the intestines the author refers to the investigations by Cannon by means of the Roentgen rays and the fluoroscope. Of the production of lymph from the blood and its diffusion he admits that the last word has not been said. The present edition reflects fairly the present state of knowledge and commends itself to all who are interested in the subject, whether as teachers, students or practitioners.

Deaths

Charles G. Bacon, M.D. Albany (N. Y.) Medical College. 1874, who attended a course of lectures in that institution in 1840-1841 and in March, 1841, was licensed to practice in the state of New York by the New York State Medical Society; for 45 years a practitioner of Fulton, N. Y.; a member of the Oswego County Medical Society and a delegate in 1854 to the American Medical Association; for 15 years a censor of the New York State Medical Society; in 1843 hospital brigade surgeon for the Forty-eighth brigade of the Militia of the State of New York, with the rank of major; given an honorary medical degree by the regents of the State of New York in 1858; in 1887 president of the New York Central Medical Society, died at his home in Fulton, August 18, aged 92.