

when a suitable Homœopathic remedy had been given *e. g.* in an intensely painful neuralgia of the trigeminus and its branches, in that of the ischiadicus, etc., the groans of the tortured patient at once ceased and the ailment disappeared for ever. But to have felt such a curative effect in one's own body, and to see oneself saved in a moment from the greatest distress and to have this pass over into a heavenly sensation of unspeakable satisfaction—this nevertheless gives us a still greater surprise, an astonishment full of reverence before those wonderful powers which had lain dormant for many years in a dried up seemingly spoiled pellet of sugar, and which yet under appropriate circumstances are unfolded with the swiftness of lightning from the germ which seemed dead!

Even in one minute all the pain was gone as by magic; only one more stool followed, and then no more; I fell into a deep refreshing sleep and awoke after several hours, with a sensation of great lassitude, nevertheless free from all pain and disease. In three days I was able to attend again to the duties of my calling. I need hardly mention in conclusion, that I had no reason to use the remedy brought from the pharmacy; the two small pellets of *Hahnemann's* preparation sufficed to thoroughly cure this very acute disease.—*Allg. Hom. Zeit.*, Vol. 60, P. 61.

MY PATIENTS.*

Sweet, cooing babes; fresh youths grown old,
Free-silver bugs among the gold,
White, Black, Gentile and well-clothed Jew,
Spraken Z. Dutch and Parley Voo.

Faces paint-fair and penciled brows,
Love-sick girls and designing fraus;
Men of some sense and "Don't-cher-knows,"
Debutants and there beardless beaux.

Epicures and poor, air-fed ones,
Wayward fathers and pious sons;
Newest women and cyclers bent;
And fond sons of Bacchus grown penitent.

The deaf mute, halt, deformed and blind,
The victims of ills of every kind;
Girls prone to weep and laugh in turn,
And boys who the old man's money burn.

*The proof of these rhymes was sent to Dr. Moffatt, but before he received it he was run over by an electric car and instantly killed on April 25th, at Washington, his late residence.

The few who pay and the plausible beats,
He who the dose too often repeats;
And they who claim, laid by from harm,
Strong drugs disease cure like a charm.

Preachers offering silent prayer,
Statesmen slumbering, feet in air;
Lawyers whose word none dare impeach,
Diplomats juggled for too free speech.

Writers of news; long since transpired,
War-worn clerks Uncle Sam has fired;
Lobbyists who have learned the ropes,
Politicians crazed o'er blasted hopes.

Poets swaggering forth in crowds,
Readers eye measuring them for shrouds;
Tailors sore, beaten most to death,
Auctioneers with lost speech and breath.

Orgau-grinders, musicians all,
Hucksters with morning caterwaul,
Cops, pugilists and other vags,
Old vets at rum, bedecked in rags.

Jehus, each fumbling his last tip,
Bank clerks planning with spoils to skip;
Boarders loud grumbling, soup too thin,
News boys, yearly greeting, shamble in.

Milliners 'neath hats, old style exhumed,
Dressmakers sure to (mis) fits doomed;
Hairdressers, wigged, my front door bang,
Store girls, jabbering "shop," beaux and slang.

Singers all jealous, of the birds,
Born fools; coxcombs-fools afterwards;
Actors, foot-sore, troupe lately swamped,
And fashion's pet, monseur le compte.

'Phone girls heart sick of yelling "number,"
Telegraphers who between ticks slumber;
Typewriters martyrs of jealous wives;
Merchants assigning all but their lives.

S. S. MOFFATT.

VERTIGO.

Translated for the HOMŒOPATHIC RECORDER from *Populaere Zeitschrift*.

Miss V. wrote on the 20th of October: "Shall I have the drops made again which you prescribed for me before, and which cured me so efficiently.?"

Her ailment was a vertigo which appeared at times, and the drops which had been useful were the tincture of *Avena sativa*. The patient had been directed to take three drops in a teaspoonful of warm water, morning and evening.

But we must warn against supposing *Avena sativa* to be a specific against vertigo. *Avena* is indicated in weak, nervous anæmic constitutions, which are easily exhausted and fatigued, and which have been more or less reduced and weakened by previous loss of fluids or depressing affections of the mind, sleeplessness, defective nutrition, etc., thus in cases where *China*, *Arnica*, *Ferrum*, or the nerve-salts of Schuessler, *Calcareo phosphorica* and *Kali phosphoricum* would be among the remedies from which we would choose. We should not fall into the mistake of supposing, routine fashion, that any one remedy must be absolutely efficacious and then so proclaiming it. Among laymen this perverse view is very common, as if Homœopathy possessed a definite specific for every ailment, and needed only to put its hand into a certain definite place in its medicine chest to help a man. Thus I lately met a gentleman belonging to the most learned profession. He had lately had a paralytic stroke, the one arm hung down limp, his gait was extremely unsteady and unequal, his tongue heavy, etc. I greeted him sympathetically, though I had no particular relations with him, and I had never been his physician. He stopped me at a draughty street corner, the thermometer had shown several degrees below the freezing point, and asked me with a heavy tongue: "What would Homœopathy prescribe for paralysis?" I had never before seen this perverted view in so drastic a form.

As little then as we have a panacea against paralysis, just as little have we one against vertigo. There are too many different kinds. We need only consider the various causes that may produce it. I knew a man who was so much troubled with vertigo, that he could not go down stairs alone, for fear that he might be seized with vertigo and fall down. The man with an iron determination, which does not always belong to "the stronger sex," gave up smoking, and, lo and behold! his vertigo ceased altogether; he was suffering from nicotine vertigo. How different again is the vertigo connected with sea-sickness, which together with sea sickness, is ascribed by some to the influence of the sea air, or more properly speaking to the effects of *Natrum muriaticum*. Shall I mention in addition the vertigo resulting from a spree (*Katzenjammer*)? In this case, to speak more scientifically, we have the alcohol-vertigo.

A "classic vertigo" we may call the hemlock-vertigo which attended the death of the great and wise Socrates, whether this may have been caused by *Conium* or *Cicuta*. I see that Prof.

Imbert Gourbeyre pleads in a learned dissertation for the former theory. The ancients were well acquainted with this characteristic peculiarity of hemlock, and after Socrates had emptied his cup, (he was not, we are sorry to say, permitted to offer to the Gods a portion of the potation, as he requested!) his friends advised him to lie down quietly as soon as his legs refused their service.

Here we have at once a whole series of vertigos, which might be increased to an incredible extent; for almost every kind of intoxication is attended by this *symptom*. This is the case whether we consider the vegetable poisons, as *Aconite*, *Belladonna*, *Rhus*, *Nux vomica*, etc., or animal poisons such as *Apis*, *Lachesis*, etc., or mineral poisons such as *Mercury*, *Arsenic* or *Zincum*, (the gastro-enteritis caused by large doses of *Zincum* is attended with vertigo, stupefaction and fainting fits). How typically recurring and pertinacious is the vertigo caused by chloroform! And if we examine the old pathogeneses of our Homœopathic pharmacopœia, the symptom-lists of these believing provers abound with vertigos (German *swindles*)—*Honi soit qui mal y pense*"—whether these symptoms be enumerated under "head," "sensory" or "general symptoms."

Now however useful individualizing may appear to be, still this matter may be simplified, and especially with reference to vertigo-patients, we may allow two great categories; the one class are afflicted with vertigo because their brain is too poor in blood (anæmic vertigo), while with the others full-bloodedness is the cause. Now while the latter class are frequently benefitted by *Nux vomica* and *Belladonna*, the former class are more especially benefitted by *Ignatia*, *Calcareo carbonica* and *Sepia*. The location of the vertigo also must not be left out of consideration, and there is no mistake in the idea that vertigo in the occiput is frequently cured by *Silicea*. But even with the full-blooded there may be transiently an anæmic state of the brain and cause vertigo, even rising to fainting fits or to an epileptic fit. Thence the advice to place such patients at the time of their attack with the head lower than the rest of the body, or even to stand them on their head, as I saw old *Ruete* in Leipzig do—God bless the old man, though he never lost an opportunity of abusing Hahnemann and Homœopathy! This is also true of epileptics; though it does not seem absolutely necessary in all cases, as nature, in her inexhaustible fertility in resources, nevertheless finds ways and means to bring the attack to a favorable issue, even when ex-

ternal surroundings are quite unfavorable. In this connection I recall a scene where a gentleman was seized by an epileptic fit while in the midst of the visitors at a museum. *He sat upright in his chair*, foaming at his mouth, deep-red in his face and quite unconscious. While I stepped up to him the paroxysm began to wear off, even before any one had thought it necessary to undo the closely-fitting cravat, or to give the patient, who had been seized so unexpectedly, another position.

Weimar.

DR. GOULLON.

SIGN OF CLEAR BLOODEDNESS.—I do not know whether it is generally known that the little white crescents at the root of the nails are an indication of pure Caucasian blood or not. This is a fact, however; especially is it the case with young people. They gradually disappear with age, beginning with the little finger and leaving the thumb last.

Doctors are expected by some of their patrons to know everything, and you might be called on some time to know whether a stranger is pure white or not, and if you fail to find those little crescents you may well have your suspicions, for I have never yet seen them when there is the least trace of negro blood.

This is not original with me; I heard it somewhere, and would like for the profession to take notice and see if there is any truth in it.—*E. H. Bowling, M. D., Luster, N. C., in Medical Brief.*

THE DOCTRINE OF SIGNATURES.—“Inner sight is the astronomy of medicine. It shows not only the causes of disease, but it furthermore discovers the elements in medicinal substances in which the healing powers reside. * * The soul does not perceive the external or physical construction of herbs and roots, but it intuitively perceives their powers and virtues, and recognizes at once their *signatum*. This *signatum* is a certain vital activity which gives to each natural object a certain similarity with a certain condition produced by disease, and through which health may be restored, in specific diseases in the diseased part.”—*Paracelsus.*

PASSIFLORA IN PUERPERAL ECLAMPSIA.—Dr. Geo. W. Holmes, of Sharpe, Florida, reports success from the use of this agent in puerperal eclampsia. The doctor was recently called

to a case in which the woman had been in convulsions for forty-eight hours. Two other physicians had been in attendance, and had delivered with forceps twenty-four hours before. All the usual remedies had been employed without apparent benefit. She was unconscious the entire time. *Passiflora* was used hypodermically, two injections being used of one drachm each half an hour apart. The convulsions ceased soon after the second dose, and the patient made a rapid recovery with appropriate after treatment.

A SAFE PREDICTION.—In discussion as to the merits of antitoxine, at a meeting of the Chicago Homœopathic Medical Society, Dr. C. E. Fisher said: “I am afraid we shall go through here what other medical societies have gone through in other parts of the country, and I want to go on record as predicting that in twelve months more antitoxine will be a thing of the past. I was disposed to favor it at first and hoped that they had indeed found something new. Statistics abroad were in its favor. Now it comes to a show-down in Europe, and we find that everything in the nature of a sore throat is run into the hospitals as diphtheria, so that the proportion of cures reported is increased, while the death rate owing to improved sanitation, etc., is decreased. No wonder the statistics show in its favor. Those who do the work in the old country are bacteriologists in the pay of the government. They are specialists and enthusiasts and let up on one thing only when they find another to talk about. I verily believe that the death of antitoxine in Europe and the East is at hand, and it will be the same here.”

DANGER OF RECTAL SURGERY.—“It sounds well to talk of applying general surgical principles to the rectum, but they should be applied with especial reference to the fact that tissues are being dealt with which rebel against coaptation, which cannot be put in splints during the period of repair, that permanent functional impairment is more frequent than is generally believed, and that such impairment or destruction of function may (and does) doom the patient to a life of helpless, hopeless, ceaseless and repulsive fecal contact. In reply to this may come the oft-repeated statement that such results occur only with the inexperienced and unskillful. This would *appear* to be true, but as a matter of fact it is among those who are notably experi-

enced in this work, that such dire consequences are most frequently found. There is no denying this. It is probably due to the fact that they operate such cases so much more frequently than others, and consequently take more chances. It may also be urged, as it usually is, that these statements emanate from one who knows nothing about the subject—one who has never investigated it. If I may be pardoned the personal allusion, I have a fair degree of clinical familiarity with this subject and I confess my results have not been what I could wish. Nor do I stand alone. One of the best general surgeons in this country told me that he was nearly ruined by his results. Another surgeon—and a good one too—informed me that a member of his own family wears a napkin constantly; and still another that Heaven was kind to him and removed by death a fecal incontinent who was a source of perpetual humiliation to him. It is not necessary to interview all the surgeons to know that they have similar results; for their patients appear to us from time to time, and while we learn a lesson from their plight, we should be charitable, for no surgeon's results are always ideal. There is no structure in the human body which, by reason of its function, offers greater objections to operation, and consequently the custom of promulgating beautiful and spacious theories to justify frequent operation upon this area, cannot but be regarded as evidence of dangerous surgical enthusiasm. I can much more readily forgive the man who is overfond of removing ovaries, testicles, turbinates, or of trephining, etc., than this endless interference with rectums to which the patient's attention has never been called by symptoms. It is a matter of the deepest regret that this should be the site of enthusiastic selection when it possesses not only the most superlative structural and functional contra-indications, but the strongest civil and social contra-indications as well. It may be excusable to operate here for tangible local lesions, but let us have surgical indications for the surgery done by surgeons and let us remember that such indications are not found outside the domain of materiality."—*T. L. Macdonald, M. D., in N. E. Medical Gazette.*

COMMON MISTAKES OF DOCTORS.—I. To promise a patient that you will cure him.

2. To promise to call at an exact specified time.
3. To promise that the malady will not return.

4. To promise that you can render more efficient service than your fellow-practitioner.
5. To promise that your pills are not bitter or the knife will not hurt.
6. To promise that the chill or fever will not rise so high tomorrow.
7. To allow your patient to dictate methods of treatment or remedies.
8. To allow yourself to be agitated by the criticisms or praises of the patient's friends.
9. To allow yourself to buoy up the patient when the case is hopeless.
10. To allow yourself to make a display of your instruments.
11. To allow yourself to experiment or exhibit your skill uncalled for.
12. To allow yourself by look or action in a consultation to show that you are displeased, and that if you had been called first matters would have been different.
13. To allow yourself to indulge in intoxicating beverages.
14. To allow yourself to rely wholly upon the subjective symptoms for your diagnosis.—*Pacific Record.*

POLYGONUM HYDROPIPER.—It is a useful remedy when there is *depression* due to almost any cause. When from capillary congestion the surface of the body is cold, there is suppressed perspiration, a tearing pain in back and legs, chilliness, cold sensations chasing up and down the back; there is, perhaps, some cold and cough, and catarrhal bronchitis of an inactive form; and if in a female there be added suppressed menstruation *Polygonum* will bring most satisfactory results. It will relieve the torpor and congestion of the uterus and ovaries as no other remedy will do. It increases the heart beats and the capillary circulation, and pretty soon the skin becomes warm and moist. The disease, wherever it be, or whatever it be, is lessened and the patient improved.

With the fact that it is a stimulant before us, *Polygonum* is contra-indicated in the active stage of any fever, or where severe inflammatory symptoms are present. But when these have passed, and we have the stage of depression, low fever and a stimulant diaphoretic and diuretic is indicated, *Polygonum* should not be overlooked.

With this idea of the action of *Polygonum* always before us, it becomes a remedy, and a valuable one, in amenorrhœa and in dysmenorrhœa, when there is depression and torpor; in gravel or calculous affections, in subacute nephritis and subacute irritation of the genito-urinary organs generally, it produces pleasing results. The same may be said of it in that near relative of these maladies, functional impotency. It awakens organs and increases functions.—*Eclectic Medical Journal*.

CHIMAPHILA UMBELLATA.—The really valuable property of *Chimaphila* is its kindly action in catarrhal states of the bladder. The greater the catarrhal character of the difficulty the better it will act. If pus and blood be voided its efficacy is all the more pronounced. It is not the remedy for acute and inflammatory troubles, but for chronic and lingering disorders giving rise to excessive voidings of mucus or muco pus, offensive or non-offensive in character.—*Ec. Med. Jour.*

BLINDNESS FROM FELIX MAS.—According to the *Journal de Médecine et de Chirurgie Pratiques*, Masiers has reported a couple of cases of amaurosis produced by extract of male fern. In one case a carpenter, after taking thirty-two capsules of extract of male fern and extract of pomegranate, and also a dose of castor oil, rapidly lost consciousness, and the next day his eyes showed total mydriasis and complete amaurosis. A week afterwards atrophy of the optic nerves supervened, and the patient became entirely blind.

BIG WORDS.—It is amusing and yet vexatious to see a worthy medical gentleman, whose ordinary conversation is in a simple and good style, suddenly swell up when he writes a medical article. He changes his whole dialect and fills his pages with a jangle of harsh technical terms, not one-third of which are necessary to express his meaning. He tries to be solemn and imposing. For instance, a physician recently devised a new instrument, and wrote it up for a medical journal under this title. "A New Apparatus for the Armamentarium of the Clinician," by which heading he doubtless hopes to make the fame of his invention "go thundering down the ages," as Guiteau said. Another writer wanted to say that cancer is an unnatural growth

of epithelium. He took a big breath and spouted the following: "Carcinoma arises from any subepithelial proliferation by which epithelial cells are isolated and made to grow abnormally." Now, then, you know all about cancer. A writer on insanity illuminates the subject as follows: "The prodromic delirium is a quasi-paranoiac psychosis in a degenerate subject. A psychosis of exhaustion being practically a condition of syncope." The following is an effort to say that certain microbes produce the poison of erysipelas: "The streptococcus erysipelatosus proliferating in the interspaces of the connective tissue is the etiologic factor in the secretion of the erysipelatosus toxine." A large cancer of the liver was found at a post-mortem examination and reported about as follows: "A colossal carcinomatous degeneration of the hepatic mechanism." Still, the man of big swelling words is not always up in the clouds. If called to a case of accident, he examines the injury, and may inform the family in quite a simple and dignified manner that their father was thrown sidewise from his carriage, breaking his leg and putting his ankle out of joint, but if he writes out the case for his medical journal, he gets up straightway on his stilts and says: "The patient was projected transversely from his vehicle, fracturing the tibia and fibula and luxating the tibiotarsal articulation." Your man of solemn speech is peculiar. He does not keep a set of instruments—not he—he has an armamentarium. His catheters never have a hole or an eye in them, but always a fenestra. In gunshot injuries, a bullet never makes a hole in his patient, but only a perforation. He does not disinfect his armamentarium by boiling, but by submerging it in water elevated to the temperature of ebullition. He never distinguishes one disease from another, but always differentiates or diagnosticates it. His patient's mouth is an oral cavity. His jaw is a maxilla. His brain is a cerebrum, his hip-joint is a coxo-femoral articulation. If his eyelids are adherent, it is a case of ankylo-symblepharon. If he discovers wrinkles on the skin, they are corrugations or else rugosities. He never sees any bleeding, but only hemorrhage or sanguineous effusion. He does not examine a limb by touch or by handling—he palpates or manipulates it. If he finds it hopelessly diseased he does not cut it off—that is undignified. He gets out his armamentarium and amputates it.—*Address by Dr. Edmund Andrews, Chicago Medical College.*

ELATERIUM.—*Elaterium* causes an enormous flow of water from the blood, and from the mucous membrane. It is stimu-

lant to the entire urinary tract, and by some is considered one of the very best remedies in the materia medica for dropsical effusions—ascites, pulmonary oedema; cerebral congestion, and for poisoning by narcotic substances. With full doses of *Elaterium*, one may be “bled through the tissues.” In dropsy of a plethoric patient, with a dirty tongue and an enlarged liver, *Elaterium* is an excellent remedy.—*Eclectic Medical Journal*.

The remedy must be given in small doses as its action is very violent.

A BACILLINUM CASE.—Dr. Deschere believes with Dr. J. Compton Burnett, from whose book on a *New Cure for Consumption* he quoted the concluding remarks, that it will be found that nosodes are not valuable when the disease has become “aggressively infective,” but particularly in the incipient stage. He also expects them to be of value in the remote effects of the action of the poison, as *Bacillinum* in tubercular joint diseases.

The essayist introduced the discussion of his paper by remarking that a nosode can act upon a tissue different from that from which it was taken. He cited a case in illustration treated by him in Flower Hospital after every other treatment had proved unavailing. It was tubercular disease of the hip joint with obstinate gluteal ulcers. *Bacillinum* 100 (Burnett) a dose daily for six days was given, followed by *sac. lac.* On the tenth day the whole leg became swollen and erysipelatous, an eruption like that caused by Koch's Tuberculin developed on the abdomen, with temperature of 106°. The man was delirious but the paroxysm subsided, the suppuration became less, the ulcer healed absolutely and the man was discharged cured in three weeks.—*Report of meeting of N. Y. M. M. Society, in Med. Century*.

ECHINACEA.—A correspondent of the *Chicago Medical Times* writes: “I am trying *Echinacea* on a case of psoriasis or dry tetter of thirteen years' standing, and the disease is slowly but surely succumbing to the remedy. I think it is a fine remedy for skin diseases when a permanent cure is desired.”

A HINT ON CONDUCT.—A correspondent of the *Medical World*, writing on the subject of “vulgar doctors,” relates the following very suggestive incident: “While in one of our large cities

lately attending a special course of instruction, he was introduced to a physician of national reputation. His bearing before the class was most impressive, and each member vied with the other to show him reverence. But one day at a private clinic he so far forgot his dignity as to relate a most disgusting and vulgar anecdote. He met with a well-merited rebuke, in that he was the only person that laughed. He never regained the respect of the class.”

CHAMPAGNE.—During a discussion on the topic of anglomania in the United States in general and in New York in particular, which I overheard in a fashionable restaurant the other night, the opinions seemed to be about evenly divided between those who thought the disease was spreading and those who believed it was growing less pronounced and virulent among the class who most keenly enjoy suffering from it. One man said what I think has a good deal of truth in it.

“The most asinine form it takes,” he remarked, “is the drinking of champagne, which does not suit one's taste, merely because the brand has vogue in England. Now, I know no fewer than a dozen young men in a club on the avenue who have adopted a certain brand for no other reason than it ranks high in the best London clubs. It is intensely dry, so dry, in fact, as to impress any one who is not used to such wines as being an aerated kind of highly rectified alcohol, for its absolute lack of any sweetness whatever gives the American palate that impression.

“A good many Englishmen prefer these ultra dry brands, and when they can find them will pay a little more than they will for other vintages or brands, and their vogue among a certain set of men here is simply because they wish to do as their models do. But the great majority of English champagne drinkers do not prefer the tasteless brands, and the wines that are most popular with us have the same patronage in London. And if such was not the case, what has that to do with it, anyhow? The American public does not drink heavy brews and discard its sparkling lager beers because John Bull prefers the weightier and more heady beverage, nor are we as a nation likely to discard the fluid extract of Kentucky for the spirit of Scotland simply because the Englishmen prefer their stimulants in the latter form. Therefore, I think I am right in saying that the small set of men in New York who affect the intensely dry champagnes that head the price lists in the English wine markets do it merely because they are consistent Anglomaniacs and must stick to their guns all along the line. Such wines will never become popular.”—*Rambler, in Mail and Express*.

BOOK NOTICES AND GOSSIP.

Diets for Infants and Children in Health and Disease. By Louis Starr, M. D. \$1.25. Philadelphia. W. B. Saunders. 1896.

A compact little book containing twenty-one (if we have counted them correctly) different diets for babies and children. Each leaf is perforated and the design is to have them torn out as needed and given to the parents, or nurses, as diet directions for the young patient. The physician, as before stated, has the choice of twenty-one different diets. There are, we believe, sixteen repetitions of each diet table in the book.

Diagnosis and Treatment of Diseases of the Rectum, Anus, and Contiguous Textures. Designed for Practitioners and Students. By S. G. Gant, M. D., Professor of Diseases of the Rectum and Anus, University and Woman's Medical Colleges; Lecturer on Intestinal Diseases in the Scarritt Training-School for Nurses; Rectal and Anal Surgeon to All-Saints, German, Scarritt's Hospital for Women, and Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Hospitals, to East-Side Free Dispensary, and to Children's and Orphans' Home, Kansas City, Mo.; Member of the American Medical Association, National Association of Railway-Surgeons, the Mississippi Valley Medical, the Missouri Valley Medical, and the Missouri and Kansas State Medical Associations, etc. With two chapters on "Cancer" and "Colotomy" by Herbert William Allingham, F. R. C. S. Eng., Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital; Assistant Surgeon to St. Mark's Hospital for Diseases of the Rectum; Surgical Tutor to St. George's Hospital, etc., London. One Volume, Royal Octavo, 400 pages. Illustrated with 16 Full-Page Chromo-Lithographic Plates and 115 Wood-Engravings in the Text. Extra Cloth, \$3.50 net; Half-Russia, Gilt Top, \$4.50 net. The F. A. Davis Co. Philadelphia. 1896.

This is a thoroughly "up-to-date" book and handles its subjects in accordance with the latest views; whether these are best for the patient, is another question. It seems to us that there can be no doubt of the truth of the proposition that a cure by

internal medication is far better than a cure by the knife, or by any external means. Another proposition, about which, of course, there is much doubt, is, that many, perhaps a majority, of the cases treated by operations of various kinds, might be cured by internal medication. The objection to surgical cures, if the word be permissible, is that there is no certainty of their permanence. Dr. Burnett in his very excellent work on the *Curability of Tumors by Medicine*, tells of two men who lived on the same street and suffered from piles in their worst form; one was cured by internal medicine aided by a few simple external applications such as *Hamamelis* and *Æsculus*, and the other by an operation. The man cured by the inside route remained cured while the other in time had a recurrence of his trouble in a worse form than before. This, however, is aside from the book under notice which, assuming that operations must be performed, is excellent. The subjects are classified, there is no superfluous verbiage, the illustrations, with one or two exceptions, are good, and several entirely new features are added, in a work of this kind, such as "Railroading as an etiological factor," and "Auto-intoxication from the interstitial canal."

Don'ts for Consumptives, or the Scientific Management of Pulmonary Consumption. By Charles Wilson Ingraham, M. D. Binghamton, N. Y. Published by the author.

This 218 page book is dedicated "to the advancement of self-study among pulmonary invalids, and the promotion of public information upon the subject of Tuberculosis." Dr. Ingraham says: "Slowly but surely the great search-light of modern science has broken through the clouds of ignorance and uncertainty, until Koch's discovery of the bacillus of tuberculosis in the year 1882, the last remnants of obscurity, so far as the cause of consumption was concerned, dissolved away." This is academic, but as to its being the truth is another question, a question that could only be answered by the search-light of science discovering the origin and the cause of the primal bacillus, which, according to the academic view, has been followed by a huge progeny which it remains but to kill off and thus free the world from consumption. Doubters of the official view will want to be assured that another crop may not spring up from the same unknown cause that started the original little "coma." Without carping the reviewer is inclined to believe that if the directors