

The exciting cause seemed to have been excess of physical work, for from the age of 15 up to the onset of her illness she served behind a bar for many hours daily. Dr. Suckling did not consider the case to be one of hysteria, but to be probably of the nature of an exhaustion paralysis. He related another case of the same kind, and suggested that they might prove to be a distinct type of disease.

FIBROID LUNG.

Dr. FOXWELL showed the lung of a matchet (bill-hook) grinder who had died of acute pneumonia. For two years before his death he had suffered from cough, expectoration, night sweats, anorexia, and emaciation. *Post mortem* the whole of the upper and half the lower lobe of the right lung were in a condition of acute fibrinous pneumonia. In addition to this, the same area of lung had much dense interstitial fibrosis uniformly distributed, the fibrous tissue occupying more space than the deeply-pigmented parenchyma. There were two small cavities, full of fluid, and a pea-sized caseous nodule at the apex. The apex of the left lung had a similar cavity. No bacilli were found in two or three sections of lung examined.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS.

Mr. BARLING showed a greatly Hypertrophied Synovial Fringe removed from the knee-joint of a middle-aged woman, in whom it had produced Hey's internal derangement. A good recovery followed, with a freely movable knee.—Mr. MARSH showed a Kidney taken *post mortem* from a man, aged 65, who was admitted into Queen's Hospital with phlegmonous proctitis. Nearly the whole of the cortical part of the left kidney was studded with irregular areas of infarction. The pelvis and ureter were healthy, as was also the right kidney.

SOUTHERN BRANCH: SOUTH EAST HANTS DISTRICT OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

Dr. KEALY in the Chair.

Thursday, November 17th, 1892.

FOREIGN BODY IN THE AIR PASSAGES.

Mr. RUNDLE reported two cases. (1) An infant, aged 9 months, was admitted to the Portsmouth Hospital suffering from much difficulty of breathing and collapse of the right lung. It had been sucking a fowl bone, but it could not be made out that any portion of the bone was missing. Tracheotomy was performed, but no foreign body was found. The child died eight hours afterwards, and *post mortem* a piece of bone was found lying laterally immediately below the larynx. Probably it had been coughed up there from the right bronchus. (2) A woman swallowed a cherry stone. Tracheotomy was performed, and the stone brought up. Mr. Rundle considered that in such cases it was wise to operate at once.

CYSTOMA WITH HÆMATOCELE OF THE BROAD LIGAMENT.

Dr. BISHOP read notes of this case. A single woman, aged 33, with a history of abdominal swelling of eighteen months' duration, was found to have a large indistinctly fluctuating abdominal tumour. She developed signs of acute peritonitis, and some fluid withdrawn with a hypodermic syringe was found deeply blood-stained and gave the reactions of blood. Abdominal section was performed by Dr. Ward Cousins, and about 10 pints of deeply blood stained fluid were withdrawn from the cyst. The pedicle of the cyst and broad ligament were infiltrated with extensive recent blood clot. A glass drainage tube was inserted for thirty-six hours, and the patient made a good recovery without complications.

Dr. WARD COUSINS said the hæmorrhage must have been caused by the rupture of a vessel in the substance of the broad ligament. There was no hæmorrhage into the peritoneal cavity.

HYDATID DISEASE OF THE LIVER.

Dr. JAMES WATSON stated that in June, 1891, a child, aged 13, with an enormous liver, was admitted under his care into the Royal Portsmouth Hospital. The tumour appeared to fill both sides of the chest posteriorly. Aspiration revealed the presence of several cysts, but no hooklets were discovered.

Abdominal section was performed by Dr. Ward Cousins. The liver was secured to the parietes by ten sutures, and one pint and a-half of bile-stained fluid was withdrawn from it. The opening was then freely dilated, and the cavity washed out and drained. After a few days the fistula was again dilated, and during the operation the whole sac was removed. The patient made a slow recovery.

Dr. WARD COUSINS said it was fortunate that under chloroform vomiting occurred in this case, for the act greatly assisted the complete removal of the cyst, which had become detached and was lying loose in the cavity.

SPECIMENS.

Dr. C. C. CLAREMONT exhibited a specimen of apparently simple Ulceration of the Oesophagus from a woman, aged 54. The floor of the ulcer was free from either granulation or slough. Microscopic examination showed no evidence of new growth and the medical history none of syphilis.

Mr. RUNDLE showed (1) a Calculus removed from a boy, aged 3 years, by suprapubic lithotomy. The bladder wound was not sutured. Urine was passed entirely by urethra on the seventh day. (2) The Leg of a man, aged 63, removed at knee-joint for a large Fungating Epithelioma of Heel, which had invaded the os calcis. The man made a good recovery. (3) A specimen of Gunshot Fracture of Skull, with Bullet, which was found in the body of the sphenoid bone.—Dr. WARD COUSINS exhibited (1) a Vesical Calculus 6½ ounces in weight, removed by lateral lithotomy. (2) A piece of Gangrenous Intestine, the result of intussusception. The patient recovered.—Mr. FREDERICK MOBLEY exhibited a Fœtus, together with the Uterus and Appendages removed from a woman who died suddenly at the fourth month of tubal pregnancy.—Dr. WARD COUSINS exhibited a new Crusher adapted for Lithotripsy in the Female.

REVIEWS.

THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD. By VICTOR HORSLEY, F.R.S., F.R.C.S., B.S. London: Charles Griffin and Co. 1892.

THIS volume contains the subject matter of a course of lectures delivered by the author at the Royal Institution in 1891 in his capacity of Fullerian Lecturer. It is to be followed by two others—the subsequent courses of the Fullerian Lectures—during the coming year. These volumes are to deal with the structure and functions of the great brain, and to conclude with some of the recent results of research in physiological psychology.

There is no branch of natural science in which a greater amount of work has been done, or which has received attention from a larger or more qualified body of investigators, from the time of Aristotle to the present day, than that branch of physiology which deals with the functions of the central nervous system. It is true that a large number of facts have been accumulated, and an immense amount of more or less exact anatomical minutiae described; but these facts are isolated, and their connection with the observed structure is obscure, and for the most part matter of conjecture. Wide-reaching generalisations, such as it is the aim of science to enunciate, do not exist. Hence, when even such a distinguished scientist as the author of these lectures attempts to weave into a connected story a selection even of the more important facts, and to present the whole in a readable form, free from controversial points or unnecessary technicalities, and embodying just sufficient speculation to bind the whole together, he is met with almost insuperable difficulties, and gives large opportunity for criticism. But it is not our intention to pick to pieces the ideas of the author, but to commend the book to all classes of students alike, as being almost the only lucid account extant embodying the latest researches and their conclusions.

The subject is introduced by a historical summary of abandoned ideas and conceptions. Commencing as far back as history records with what seem now to us the crude, though ingenious and exquisitely detailed, ideas of Plato, the author

surveys in some detail the rise and progress of knowledge in this perplexing subject. Having told the story of man's efforts to generalise, Mr. Horsley reviews the comparative constitution of the nervous system as met with in the animal kingdom, and traces the growth of specialisation in Nature. From protozoa to man the growing complexity of nervous organisation is closely followed. Mention is made and figures given to illustrate the classical experiments of Romanes and Ewart on co-ordination among sea-urchins, and the histology of lower forms is briefly described. This comparative introduction serves a twofold purpose. Not only does it familiarise the reader with the fundamental properties of nervous tissue, but it also serves to impress the idea of phylogenetic increase in complexity—a point of far greater importance to the general reader.

We now pass at once, in Lecture iv, to the consideration of the vertebrate spinal cord and ganglia. The consideration of this structure and its functions, which it is the aim of the book to elucidate, is continued to the end of the volume. Here the author, relying on the knowledge imparted to his readers in the preceding chapters, becomes more free in his explanations and to the scientific reader far easier to follow, but still the subject is approached from the simplest and most elementary standpoint. Yet the author introduces his readers to some of the latest researches and discoveries, and he does so without in the least breaking the thread of his story or even letting his readers know that they are being led into realms of speculation of which they, at the commencement of the book, did not even know the existence. And herein lies part of the author's power as a lecturer.

The volume concludes with a short mention of the afferent channels existing in the mammalian spinal cord—a subject which he has himself investigated. We heartily commend the book to all readers. The appearance of the concluding volumes, if they prove of the same high merit as the one before us, will form a most welcome addition to the literature on this subject.

HISTORY OF GUY'S HOSPITAL. By G. T. BETTANY, M.A., and SAMUEL WILKS, M.D., F.R.S. London: Ward, Lock, Bowden and Co. 1892.

THE important position which large hospitals and their attendant medical schools hold in the economy of a nation has been long recognised; and while the story of the foundation and subsequent growth of these institutions cannot fail to instruct the student of history, to those who have the privilege of regarding themselves as *alumni* such an account must be specially welcome. Though Guy's Hospital is by no means the oldest of the metropolitan hospitals (it was founded in 1725) it has attained a world-wide reputation, and during an existence of little more than a century and a-half has had connected with it many of the foremost men of science whose names are imperishably written in the annals of medicine.

The volume before us comprises an exhaustive account of the life of Thomas Guy, the founder of the hospital, and biographical sketches of all the physicians and surgeons who have been attached to the medical staff of the hospital, together with a short account of the development of its medical school. The life of the founder was written by the late Mr. G. T. BETTANY, whose "Eminent Doctors" and other contributions to the biographical literature of the medical profession are well known. As stated in the preface, this biography has entailed a large amount of literary research, and the life of Thomas Guy now stands forth almost in the light of a revelation. For before Mr. Bettany commenced his investigations there was little more known of the founder than that he was "a bookseller of not over-scrupulous honesty, who, to appease his conscience, built a hospital," and any conception of his character was derived from the stories of Nichols and others. But the result of Mr. Bettany's labour is to throw a new light upon his life, and by an appeal to the facts of contemporary history to justify the belief that Thomas Guy was an industrious, shrewd, and successful man of business, and, above all, the greatest philanthropist of his time. His early generosity, his numerous gifts to Tamworth—the town which he represented in Parliament—his benefactions to St. Thomas's and Christ's Hospitals, his bequests to even distant relations, and finally his munificent endowment of the hospital which bears his name, are evidence sufficient to refute the charge

of meanness which has been brought against him. It is probably unknown to many that Guy was a publisher as well as a bookseller, and for many years he carried on, in conjunction with his friend Peter Parker, the printing of the University of Oxford—a business which ultimately involved them in troublesome and protracted struggles with the Stationers' Company. Among his numerous publications there is one of special interest, being probably the only work Guy published on a medical subject, namely, Dr. John Freind's *Emmenologia*. In the Howley Library, Canterbury, there is a collection of successive editions of Howell's *Familiar Letters*, which was made by Mr. Harrison, the treasurer of Guy's Hospital for more than fifty years, who took great interest in the books published by Thomas Guy. The fourth and two subsequent editions of the *Familiar Letters* were published by him.

The lives of the physicians and surgeons attached to the hospital during the last century are also from the pen of Mr. Bettany. The most eminent of these were the scholarly Dr. Jurin, Dr. William Saunders (the founder of the medical school at Guy's), Mr. Samuel Sharp, and Mr. Joseph Warner. Some of the memoirs, also, of those who lived at the beginning of the present century have been compiled from Mr. Bettany's writings; but all the later biographies are from the hand of Dr. WILKS, and the fact that the individuals of whom he writes were personally known to him renders his part of the work exceptionally interesting. His descriptions and characters are vividly drawn, and the sketches, being freely interspersed with anecdotes, are very readable. It is enough to mention the names of a few of the brilliant teachers upon whom the fame of Guy's Hospital rests—the names of Babington and Bright and Addison, of Astley Cooper and Aston Key—to show the substance of this portion of the book. Where all are well done it is hard to make distinctions, but, perhaps, in the life of Thomas Addison the biographer seems most in sympathy with his subject. From his long connection with Guy's, Dr. Wilks is naturally conversant with the gradual development of its school and with the many changes which have taken place in the character of medical education during the last fifty years. In the account of the school it is pointed out that the first series of lectures in London on diseases of the teeth was delivered at Guy's Hospital, and that it was the first of the general hospitals to establish within its walls a special eye infirmary for the reception of in-patients.

In perusing this volume we are impressed with the number of learned societies, in the foundation of which many of those whose lives are here portrayed have been more or less directly concerned. When the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society was inaugurated, Dr. Saunders was the first president, and four other Guy's men had seats in the Council. The Pathological Society was founded by Dr. Edward Bentley, of Guy's; the Geological Society by Dr. William Babington; and the first president of the Epidemiological Society was Dr. Babington, jun. Similarly, Dr. Hodgkin was instrumental in founding the Aborigines and Ethnological Societies.

In conclusion, we would say that this *History of Guy's Hospital* is worthy of careful reading, and will be valued by all who take an interest in the history of their profession. The book is well got up, and contains several illustrations which have been reproduced from old prints of the hospital and its neighbourhood.

VACCINATION AND SMALL-POX. By E. J. EDWARDES, M.D. Lond. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1892.

THIS is an excellent little manual, sold at a shilling, which will be of great service to those who have not time to wade through Blue Books. The principal object of the author is to show that revaccination is the necessary complement of vaccination, and that, if the former be efficiently carried out, small-pox epidemics would disappear. Dr. EDWARDES considers the evidence that vaccination protects from small-pox, and the objections to that evidence, and furnishes conclusive answers to these. In a compilation where there is so much that is good it is difficult to choose, but in Chapter iv, where Dr. Edwarde deals with the subject from a logical point of view the evidence is very striking. It appears from Dr. Gayton's statistics, based upon 10,000 cases, that the mortality from small-pox falls as the efficiency of the vaccination rises. Some of the figures are very telling. For example,

in the age period 10 to 15, mortality from small-pox in persons with "good marks" is 1.1 per cent.; in those with "imperfect marks," 3.4 per cent.; whilst in the unvaccinated it rises to 23.3; and in the age period 15 to 20, the corresponding figures are about 2.6 and 4.2. Other evidence is of an equally striking kind. Dr. Collie, for instance, relates that of 110 persons who were employed in the Homerton Fever Hospital in attendance on small-pox during the epidemic of 1871 all but two were revaccinated, and "all but these two escaped small-pox." In the epidemic of 1876-7 the experience was of the same kind. All the revaccinated attendants escaped small-pox, whilst the only one who had not been revaccinated took it and died. So in the epidemic of 1881 of 90 nurses and other attendants employed on the *Atlas* small-pox ship "the only person who contracted small-pox was a housemaid who had not been revaccinated." Eulenberg and Körösi give similar instances, and one came under the notice of the writer. The revaccination of a scrubber in a temporary small-pox hospital had been omitted. She took small-pox and died, whilst the other attendants escaped. What is the answer of the antivaccinationists to these facts?

Dr. Edwardes considers and effectually disposes of the risks attending vaccination, and gives conclusive evidence of the need for compulsory revaccination. His opponents will find him difficult to deal with, but his account of Keller's statistics will be bitter reading for them. The once famous statistics are not only shown to be thoroughly unsound in principle, "but worse remains behind. Herr Körösi, in 1887, went over the whole ground again, and found that Keller directly falsified the returns originally supplied to him by the railway surgeons." The pamphlet is full of most valuable statistics, and will well repay perusal.

THE TREATMENT OF DISEASE BY THE PROLONGED APPLICATION OF CURRENTS OF ELECTRICITY OF LOW POWER. Being an extract from the latest edition of *Massage, Electricity, and Allied Methods of Treatment*. By HERBERT TIBBITS, M.D. London: The Medical Battery Company, Limited.

In this pamphlet (p. 5) Dr. TIBBITS informs the public that "regarded from a strictly scientific point of view the electropathic appliances manufactured by the Electropathic and Zander Institute, who are manufacturers of Mr. C. B. Harness's various patents, 52, Oxford Street, London, are preferable to any others." He states in the same paragraph that "these appliances are scientifically constructed, perfectly manufactured," etc. He thus lends the weight of such authority as he may possess to Mr. Harness's pamphlet on Mild Galvanic Currents.

On page 6 he states that either quantity or intensity can be obtained with Harness's electropathic belts. It is utterly impossible to arrange Harness's discs upon a belt "in intensity," that is to say in such a manner as to give an electromotive force greater than that due to a single pair of discs. We have seen Harness's belts and descriptions of belts supposed to be arranged in this way, and the arrangement has always consisted simply of a number of discs, alternately of zinc and tinned copper, connected together by the cord of wire and string usually employed. Such an arrangement could not under any circumstances produce a greater electromotive force than that due to one pair of discs, and even if the discs were properly connected they would, if attached to the same belt, be immersed in the same electrolyte, and, therefore, the electromotive force could not be increased beyond that due to a single couple.

We should be sorry to have to say that Dr. Tibbits desires intentionally to mislead the public into a belief in these appliances. We prefer to say that his statement betrays an ignorance of electrical science which unfits him for a judge.

"With the above apparatus," he says, referring to a series of Harness's belts enumerated on the preceding page, "I conducted the following experiments:—

"1. Slightly moistened, all the above gave considerable deflections of a milliamperè galvanometer.

"2. When worn upon the body, and set in action by the natural perspiration, the wires from the poles being connected with a galvanometer, gave deflections.

"3. The apparatus being worn upon the body, the positive pole was connected with Lord Kelvin's reflecting galvanometer,

and a platinum needle, insulated to within $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch of its point, and also connected with the galvanometer, was inserted $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch perpendicularly through the skin, and 1 inch from the negative pole, the distance between the two poles being 6 inches, and the intervening skin being thoroughly dry and powdered with starch powder, so as to render it as much of an insulator as possible. The beam of light at once travelled several degrees. The needle was then reinserted exactly midway between the two poles, and a smaller deflection was obtained.

"These experiments prove conclusively that a current of electricity penetrated the skin and influenced the subjacent tissues."

The first two experiments show that there was a current through the moist flannel when the discs were connected by an external wire, which, we may point out, is not usually supplied with the belt. This result was to be expected, but it certainly gives no ground whatever for the conclusions drawn by Dr. Tibbits. With regard to Experiment 3, the results were in accordance with the hypothesis that a current due to the action of the belt "penetrated the skin, and influenced the subjacent tissues," as asserted by Dr. Tibbits.

We must, however, point out that: (1) A single experiment of this kind proves nothing, as it would require a series of experiments both with and without the belt to eliminate all the disturbing causes which would be present. (2) Powdering the skin with starch would merely cover up the moisture, and would be quite ineffective in preventing a flow across its surface, just as the insulating covering upon a telegraph or electric light cable does not prevent the wire from transmitting the current.

REPORT ON MR. C. B. HARNESS'S ELECTROPATHIC BELTS, AND THE ELECTROPATHIC AND ZANDER INSTITUTE. By ARTHUR HARRIES, M.D., etc. London: The Medical Battery Company, Limited.

On the first four pages of this pamphlet we find illustrated descriptions of the various types of Harness electropathic belts, the different types consisting of arrangements of discs in various patterns upon the material of the belt. On the first page is shown a so-called intensity arrangement, in which each group is composed of discs, alternately of zinc and tinned copper, all in metallic connection, and from which it would therefore be impossible to get a higher electromotive force than that due to one pair. The mere illustration and description of this arrangement without comment shows conclusively that the author is either incompetent for the task which he has undertaken or is foisting irrelevant technicalities upon the public.

After this description of the belts the author proceeds to test them. The so-called tests consist simply in folding the belts so that discs of opposite metals may be opposed, separating them by means of flannel saturated either with salt water or human perspiration, and attaching the zinc and copper respectively to the terminals of a galvanometer. Any beginner in electricity knows that under such circumstances a current would be produced, and it is perfectly possible, by connecting together a sufficient number of copper discs on the one hand, and of zinc discs on the other, or, more simply, by using a single pair of large plates, to obtain a current considerably greater than 50 milliamperes, the maximum stated to have been obtained by the author. The current, after making contact, would, however, very rapidly fall to an extremely low value, owing to polarisation. This is not mentioned by the author, though he can hardly have failed to observe it.

It is in this manner that Mr. Harness purports to test his belts for the benefit of those who are credulous enough to purchase them for the cure of their ailments, and the misleading nature of the test has already been pointed out. Dr. HARRIES ought not to be ignorant of it. A good deal of stress is laid upon the fact that the author repeated all his experiments with each of two galvanometers. They are not always in very close agreement, and in one case (page 5) according to one galvanometer the current obtained was $\frac{1}{2}$ milliamperè, while according to the other instrument it was only $\frac{1}{20}$ milliamperè. Experiments made and recorded in this manner—even if they had any bearing upon the effect of the belts when worn upon the body, as is

claimed for them—could not be treated as serious tests. On pages 13 and 15 the author describes some attempts which he made to determine the resistances of tap water, human perspiration, and a saturated solution of salt and water. The attempts were made by sending currents from varying numbers of cells, supposed to be of known electromotive force, through tubes of the solution and through films on the surface of mackintosh cloth. He naturally found that with a given number of cells the smallest galvanometer reading was obtained with the tap water, owing to its relatively high resistance. Nevertheless, he states at the end of his description that “for the purposes of these tests the relative resistance of tap water may be neglected.”

The author found when attempting to measure the resistance of a column of salt and water by sending a current through it from forty cells in series, that some trouble arose “from electrolytic decomposition,” as he observes, but it does not seem to have occurred to him that polarisation effects would vitiate the whole of his results, and he appears to have no glimmering of the fact that the resistance of an electrolyte cannot be determined by simply dividing the electromotive force of the battery by the current. He has not even determined the electromotive force at the ends of the column correctly, as his assumption that it is equal to that of the battery on open circuit would only be true if the cells had no internal resistance. Under these circumstances his results would not even be rough approximations to the true values. The author compares the resistance of the films on mackintosh with that of the body in such a manner as to suggest, though the suggestion is nowhere definitely stated, that the resistance of the portion of the body between two discs on opposite sides of it would be less than that of the inch or two of moist skin separating two adjacent discs, and that the greater portion of the current would therefore pass through the body instead of across the skin.

It seems hardly necessary to point out that no conclusion as to the resistance of moist skin can be drawn from that of moist mackintosh, even if the latter were properly determined.

In his final conclusions the author gives all the smaller currents in microampères, or millionths of an ampère, making them appear to the uninitiated much larger than if stated in milliampères, as is usually done. Even then he only gets 194 microampères, or about $\frac{1}{5}$ milliampère, as the maximum current obtainable through the body when the belt is folded over as described and the discs pressed together, and then the battery so formed connected in series with the body. As before explained, this would soon fall off enormously from the effects of polarisation.

The author states further on that 750 microampères, namely, $\frac{3}{8}$ milliampère, were obtained through the body when the belt was worn in the ordinary manner. This result, however, is only obtained as an inference from the absurd determinations and assumptions previously criticised.

The pamphlet is prefaced by a highly eulogistic letter to the directors of the Medical Battery Company.

ANLEITENDE VORLESUNGEN FÜR DEN OPERATIONS-CURSUS AN DER LEICHE. [Explanatory Lectures to the Course of Operations on the Dead Body.] Von Prof. E. von BERGMANN und Dr. H. ROCHS. Zweite erweiterte Auflage. Pp. 256. Berlin: Hirschwald.

In a small compass this book gives the necessary information for performing operations upon the dead body. It begins with ligature of arteries, and proceeds with tracheotomy, amputations, excision of the joints and bones, and genito-urinary and rectal operations. It is to be noted that nothing is said about the subcutaneous surgery of the tendons, fasciæ, or bones. Also, in England, where the supply of material for operative surgery is so thoroughly inadequate, the above order of procedure would be inconvenient. The excisions are better performed before the amputations. In other respects this small work is satisfactory and reliable, although the directions exceed what is customary in English surgery. For instance, ligature of the axillary artery is said to call for particular attention, because it is of importance in respect to amputation of the breast. When we turn to ampu-

tation of the breast we find ligature of the axillary artery again brought to the front, and clearing of the axillary vein mentioned as quite an ordinary part of the operation. Perhaps the title gives a clue to these heroic measures. For excision of the upper jaw two incisions are given, neither of which possesses the merits of that which is usually practised, which, besides giving excellent room, follows the natural furrows of the face; the other steps of the operation are well described. This book is illustrated with a number of figures which, although inartistic, serve the purpose for which they are intended.

NOTES ON BOOKS.

The Mastoid Operation. By SAMUEL ELLSWORTH ALLEN, M.D. (Cincinnati: Robert Clarke and Co. 1892.)—This little book gives first a full historical account of this operation from the earliest times to 1891; secondly, the leading points in the surgical anatomy of the mastoid region; and, lastly, a sketch of the various pathological states requiring opening of the mastoid antrum, and the rules for performing the operation. The interest of the book undoubtedly culminates in the description of Schwartze's modification of Stacke's operation, by which the meatus, tympanum, and antrum are all laid bare into one large cavity. Needless to say that as the author is a disciple of Schwartze he is a strong advocate for the chisel, and rejects entirely drills for opening the antrum. It is a pity that he uses a good many uncouth words, such as “infero-medially,” “hyperostotic,” “postero-laterally,” which, together with a somewhat stiff style, render the work less easy reading than it might be. It is illustrated by very good plates, and is valuable as giving an account of the surgery of the mastoid up to date, at least as it is practised in Professor Schwartze's clinic at Halle.

Chemistry, Inorganic: Catechism Series. (Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone.)—This is the kind of work which is called into existence as the direct result of the mechanical manner in which examinations are at present conducted. It will doubtless prove useful for the narrow purpose for which it is intended, but it is to be hoped that in the near future a more enlightened system of testing the knowledge of candidates will stop the production of “cram” books of this character. It is at least gratifying to note that no chemist has associated his name with this work.

Fever Nursing. By MARY HARRIS. (London: The Record Press, Limited. 1892.)—The writer of this booklet has had full opportunities of qualifying herself for teaching fever nursing, as she has been Matron of the Carlisle Fever Hospital and a Sister in the Leeds Borough Hospital. Miss Harris remarks with much truth that the nursing of infectious diseases is now rarely taught in general hospitals, and the strict isolation of such patients in separate hospitals renders a simple manual like this an important part of the equipment of the private nurse. The matter is divided into chapters dealing with each special form of fever. The directions given are clear, concise, and practical. More stress might have been laid on the importance of careful maintenance of a constant temperature and confinement to one room until all desquamation in scarlet fever has ended. The average patient is too impatient of that enforced seclusion, and yet experience has shown that troublesome sequelæ may be due to hurried convalescence. The same remark applies to measles. In both these complaints it is wise to err on the side of too much watchfulness. The chapter on typhoid fever is excellent. One paragraph, that on the use of the cold bath in hyperpyrexia, savours of want of caution; it would be well to warn the nurse never to give the bath except in the presence of the medical attendant, even though ordered by him. As an alternative disinfectant in the vessels charcoal might have been suggested, as there is unhappily a danger of a strong liquid disinfectant being upset in the bed, to the damage of the patient's skin. This little manual is deserving of the attention of all who may be called to nurse infectious complaints.