

PSYCHIATRY.

IN a small volume entitled *Éléments de Neuro-Psychiatrie*⁷ Dr. HENRI DAMAYE urges with much vigour the necessity for biological methods in the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders. The descriptions of the various clinical groups are compressed and require no special comment; it is the general attitude of the author to the problem of the psychoses which is of special interest. Though he recognizes that the study of mental symptoms is an essential part of psychiatry, he feels that this is not enough. He points out that disorders of the brain are frequently the result of an infection, an intoxication of the organism, or a disorder of general nutrition. The therapeutics and causation of mental disorder therefore necessitate a wide knowledge of medicine, and the modern psychiatrist should be acquainted with general pathology, the diseases of the organism, infections, intoxications, and the natural defences of the organs and tissues; and, lastly, he should have the ability to apply remedies to curable mental disorders based upon their pathology. For these reasons the author strongly advocates a prolonged training in general medicine before specializing in psychiatry.

Such principles are amplified throughout the book and their significance shown in respect to both the prevention and cure of mental disorder. Recognizing, moreover, the great importance of prophylaxis, Dr. Damaye includes interesting chapters on the care and education of children, on religious teaching, and on the difficult problem of the "half-insane" (demi-fous), or those types of abnormal persons who, though not recognized as insane, are often more harmful to the public welfare and domestic life than the true psychotics. This little volume may be regarded as a sequel to one by the same author in which he strongly criticized the neglect of psychiatry in France.⁸ This book was referred to in the *JOURNAL* of December 16th, 1922 (p. 1182). Dr. Damaye is a forceful, clear, and courageous writer, and we do not doubt that these books will have an invigorating influence on psychiatry in his own country. They are deserving also of the attention of English psychiatrists, who will discover much within them of administrative and scientific interest.

NOTES ON BOOKS.

THE second edition of *An Introduction to the Study of Mental Disorders*,⁹ by Dr. FRANCIS M. BARNES, jun., now includes his notes on mental diseases previously published in a separate volume. Additional space has been given to mental hygiene and social psychiatry, the mental factor in industry, and vocational guidance. Several chapters have been revised and amplified, some new ones added, and more extended consideration given to certain types of mental disorder. The book is intended as a preliminary course of instruction for medical students, and the author has not aimed to produce a comprehensive textbook of psychiatry. It has a number of excellent features which would justify enlargement. A chapter on the medico-legal aspects of insanity, together with a considerable expansion of the section dealing with the clinical forms of mental disorder, would greatly increase its sphere of usefulness.

In *Goathland Walks*¹⁰ Mr. MAKEPEACE has written a pleasant little book both for those who know and those who do not know the district dealt with. He gives a choice of fourteen walks that may be taken with Goathland as a centre, and describes all the beauties and antiquities to be seen on each. Quaint things crop up here and there. The village of Runswick in 1664 was, less one house, totally destroyed by a landslip. Provisionally most of the inhabitants were that night "waking" a corpse instead of being sound asleep in their beds, and were thus made aware of the impending catastrophe in time to warn everyone to leave house and home and make for safety. Between Runswick and Kettlewell was at one time a cave, 70 ft. long by 20 ft. wide, known, along with some smaller ones, as Hob

⁷ *Éléments de Neuro-Psychiatrie: Clinique, Thérapeutique, Questions Sociologiques*. Par Henri Damaye, Médecin-Directeur des Asiles d'Aliénés. Paris: A. Maloine et Fils. 1923. (Cr. 8vo, pp. 204. Fr. 7.)

⁸ *Le Médecin devant l'Assistance et l'Enseignement psychiatriques*.

⁹ *An Introduction to the Study of Mental Disorders*. By Francis M. Barnes, M.A., M.D., Associate Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases in the St. Louis University Medical School. Second edition. London: Henry Kimpton. 1923. (Med. 8vo, pp. 295. 18s. net.)

¹⁰ *Goathland Walks*. By W. Ridley Makepeace. Whitby, Yorkshire: Horne and Sons, Ltd. 1923. (Cr. 1vo, pp. viii+91; 1 figure. 4s. 6d.)

Holes. These were the haunt of a Yorkshire hobgoblin, and the resort of anxious—and daring—mothers whose children suffered from whooping-cough. The children were carried to the mouth of the large cave and the goblin addressed thus:

"Hob-hole Hob!
Ma bairn's gotten t' kink-cough;
Tak't off—tak't off!"

As in the case of most "cures," regular and irregular, for whooping-cough, old Father Time probably did not get the credit in the matter that was his due. And at Hempsyke, beside the road, is a water-trough with a plentiful supply of pure water running from a carved lion's head. On a zinc plate above it is the verse:

"Man made the trough,
The water God bestows
Then praise H's name
From whom the water flows."
—John Allan, *Hempsyke*, 1656.

To which a tramp of literary tastes replied in 1864:

"The stream is pure, as if from Heaven it ran,
And while I praise the Lord, I'll thank the man."

A shilling bestowed on such a "Weary Willie" would not have been wasted; and it is doubtful whether many of the amateur tramps who buy this book and take the fourteen walks from Goathland will be able to match him at the "crambo-clink."

*A Plea for Cheerfulness*¹¹ is a charming little book of verse by MAURICE C. HIME, M.A., LL.D., who is now over 82 years of age, and lives in retirement in a pleasant ivy-clad dwelling in county Donegal. The very fact that such a man at such an age publishes such a plea makes for the cheerfulness of the reader. And Dr. Hime is clear that there is no difficulty in other old men performing like feats. He was well past 60 when he made his first attempt at versification, and one sonnet is devoted to the encouragement of a middle-aged correspondent who asked him just how it is done. Dr. Hime is perhaps troubled with insomnia; anyhow he is great on lullabies. The sonnets (which are not sonnets) contain three, and he tells the reader how to repeat the first of them, so as to assure its soporific action. The pamphlet is made the more attractive by Mr. J. R. Monsell's amusing little illustrations.

Dr. ERNEST JONES has collected in a single volume, entitled *Essays in Applied Psycho-analysis*,¹² thirteen of his previously published articles. All of them have undergone revision and have been partly rewritten. Only one-fifth had previously appeared in English, the rest having been published in German journals devoted to psycho-analysis.

*Willing's Press Guide*¹³ is a useful work of reference. It includes an alphabetical list of newspapers and periodicals published in the United Kingdom, with particulars of their year of establishment, politics (if any), date of publication, price, and the publisher's name and address. There is also a classification of professions, interests, trades, religious denominations, sciences, etc., with their respective newspapers and magazines. Colonial and Continental newspapers in English are enumerated, and there is a foreign section which consists of a list of the principal newspapers of foreign countries; any London addresses of these are given. There is a section devoted to the news agencies which supply, by telegraph or otherwise, home and foreign news and other matter to the general press. The reputation of the book as a handy work of reference is well maintained, and it constitutes a reliable guide to the press of the world.

¹¹ *A Plea for Cheerfulness*. By Maurice C. Hime, M.A., LL.D. London: Charles J. Thynne. (Cr. 8vo, pp. 40; illustrated. 1s. net.)

¹² *Essays in Applied Psycho-analysis*. By Ernest Jones, M.D. London and Vienna: The International Psycho-analytical Press. London: G. Allen and Unwin, Ltd. 1923. (Med. 8vo, pp. 454; 1 plate. 18s. net.)

¹³ *Willing's Press Guide, 1924*. Fifty-first year. London: James Willing, Ltd. 1924. (Demy 8vo, pp. xii + 452. 7s. 6d.)

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL APPLIANCES.

A Portable Electric Cautey.

DR. CHARLES S. THOMSON (M.O.H. Deptford), having been impressed when an assistant in the country by the lack of means for using an electric cautey, has designed an apparatus, which has been made by Mr. Davidson, 29, Great Portland Street, London. W. It consists of a rheostat, handle cords, terminals, and three heavy platinum burners. The source of electric supply is the accumulator of a motor car; the accumulator is, of course, continually charged by the dynamo. The cords, attached to the rheostat, are hooked to any accumulator from 4 to 12 volts. If more than one separate accumulator is fitted to the motor car, one could be lifted out of its box after disconnecting and used with the outfit.