

PART II.

REVIEWS AND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

On Accessory Lobes of the Human Lungs. By EDWARD W. COLLINS, M.D., Univ. Dub.; Demonstrator of Anatomy in the University of Dublin. Trans. Roy. Irish Acad., Vol. XXV. 4to, 8 pp.

THIS is a most valuable record of an instance of a rare form of irregularity affecting the right pleura and lung, met with by the author in the course of his demonstrations last session. In the right pleural cavity was found a fold, consisting of a reduplication of the costal pleura and containing the vena azygos in its free margin, which, descending from the upper part of the cavity, imperfectly divided it into two, and thus, by constricting the lung, gave the appearance of an accessory lobe. This mass of lung-tissue was pyriform, and measured about four inches in length, by two and a-half in diameter, while the diameter of its peduncle was but one and a-half inches. It was situated superiorly, posteriorly, and internally, and lay on and beside the bodies of the five upper dorsal vertebræ. No special bronchus was supplied to it.

The author has been able to find but seven similar instances recorded. In all these the position of the fold and the relation of the vena azygos were the same. In six the irregularity was on the right side, and in one only on the left. In this latter the fœtal condition of the left vena azygos had persisted; and that vessel, passing through the free margin of the fold, opened into the left vena innominata.

The author agrees with Professor Cleland in attributing the irregularity to some accidental circumstance in early fœtal life, whereby the vena azygos, when by the descent of the heart its relations become altered, notches the lung, instead of slipping behind it. In the instance met with by the author the fold was clearly limited externally by the superior intercostal vein; and although no mention is made of this fact in any of the seven cases

alluded to, the author is induced to believe that this relation is as constant as that of the vena azygos itself, and of much importance in determining the irregularity.

There is one statement made by the author to which we must take exception. He claims for this form of irregularity the exclusive right to the title "accessory lobe;" and lobes resembling the lobus impar of quadrupeds, described by M. Pozzi and Professor Rektorzik, as well as portions of lung separated by shallow grooves, he would characterise as merely "examples of that redundant lobulation not unfrequently seen in other viscera." Now, if we are to act *strictly* in accordance with analogy, it is surely to conditions such as these that the term "accessory lobe" ought to be applied. For in these, the lobe, such as it is, is at least primary; while in that form which is the subject of the memoir it is merely secondary to the constriction produced by the irregular position of the vena azygos.

The value of the memoir is enhanced by a chromo-lithograph of the author's preparation, and by three wood-cuts illustrating the cases referred to.

WORKS ON HYGIENE.

1. *A Manual of Public Health.* By W. H. MICHAEL, F.C.S., Barrister-at-Law; W. H. CORFIELD, M.D., Professor of Hygiene, University College; and J. A. WANKLYN, M.R.C.S. Edited by ERNEST HART. London: Smith, Elder, & Co. 1874. 8vo; pp. 374.
2. *Public Health: a Popular Introduction to Sanitary Science.* Part II.—War in its Sanitary Aspect. By W. A. GUY, M.D., Professor of Hygiene, King's College. London: Henry Renshaw. 1874. 8vo; pp. 342.
3. *Microscopic Examinations of Air.* By D. CUNINGHAM, Surgeon H.M. Indian Medical Service. Calcutta Government Printing Office. 4to; pp. 58.
4. *Sanitary Arrangements for Dwellings.* By WM. EASSIE, C.E. London: Smith, Elder, & Co. 1874. 8vo; pp. 188.
5. *Cremation: the Treatment of the Body after Death.* By Sir HENRY THOMPSON, F.R.C.S., M.B. London: H. S. King & Co. 1874. Pamphlet; pp. 55.

6. *La Cremation des Morts en Italie.* Par le Docteur PROSPER DE PIETRA SANTA. Paris: F. B. Baillière et Fils. 1873. pp. 19.
7. *Hygiene of Schools.* By J. B. BUDGETT, M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1874. 8vo; pp. 88.
8. *Hints on Public Health.* By HENRY J. ALFORD, M.D., Lond., Medical Officer of Health, Taunton Sanitary Districts. London: H. K. Lewis. 1874. Pp. 58.

THE Public Health Acts of 1872 and 1874, creating, as each did, a corps of Public Health Officers, and providing every part of the United Kingdom with sanitary officials, have also produced an abundant crop of works relating to hygiene. Dr. Parkes' excellent "Manual of Hygiene" has made its appearance in the shape of a fourth edition for the use, not merely of Medical Officers of the army and navy, but also for civil Medical Officers of Health; Dr. Wilson has written a work on Public Health; Dr. Edward Smith, Manuals for Officers of Health and Inspectors of Nuisances; and now we have another work on Hygiene, the conjoint production of four men well known to sanitarians—Messrs. Ernest Hart, Michael, Corfield, and Wanklyn. This book ought to be a good one, seeing that so many able hands have been employed on it. When we opened its pages we expected to find something really good, nor were we disappointed. Hart's "Manual of Public Health" is admirably adapted to the wants of the great majority of Medical Officers of Health, as it gives them sufficiently full information in reference to all the really important matters likely to engage their attention. It may not in all cases supersede all other works of the same class; those who intend to devote their whole attention to sanitary studies may require larger treatises and works on special departments of hygiene, but these health officers who are also medical practitioners will find sufficient information in Mr. Hart's manual. There is, no doubt, some slight disadvantage in the preparation of a public health manual by several persons. Each touches upon topics which have to be more fully dealt with by one or more of his *collaborateurs*. For example, water is treated upon in different parts of Mr. Hart's manual, which is somewhat inconvenient. This disadvantage—necessarily incidental to a work of the kind—and the want of a general index, are all we can find fault with in Hart's "Manual of

Public Health." On the other hand, we can justly state that the information given is most accurate and relevant—nothing not likely to be of some use to the health officer being introduced into the work.

Dr. Guy, in his valuable book, deals principally with the sanitary evils which arise out of the concentration of numbers of men for the purpose of war, but incidentally it gives some very interesting information in reference to the hygiene of civil life. The evils of over-crowding in camp, barrack, ship, and hospital, are graphically delineated and illustrated by numerous references to many painful episodes in the military and naval history of Great Britain.

Dr. Cuningham gives us in his book a series of engravings exhibiting the microscopic appearance of different kinds of dust floating in the atmosphere. He also gives a very interesting *resumé* of the observations made in reference to the solid impurities of the air from 1830, when Ehrenberg wrote a paper on that subject in "Poggendorff's Annals," to the period of Dr. Cuningham's own investigations in 1872.

Mr. Eassie is a well-known sanitary engineer, a member of a profession just now very limited in number indeed, but likely to be both numerous and amply employed in the immediate future. His book is a good one, plain and practical; and we may add that the advice given in it is *practicable*. It is a work which the physician as well as the architect may study with advantage, for the information which it gives might often enable the former to trace the origin of typhoid in his patients to some faulty construction of drain or water-closet.

The pamphlets on Cremation are referred to in our "Report on Public Health."

Dr. Budgett's little book is one which should be in the hands of every schoolmaster. We fully endorse the views set forth in it; they coincide with those already expressed in one of our Reports on Public Health.

The last work on our list is of a popular, scientific character, and is founded upon, and is chiefly a re-publication of, some papers published by Dr. Alford in the *Somerset County Gazette*, under the

title of "Occasional Papers on Public Health." Country newspapers are seldom so fortunate as to be the means of conveying such valuable information to their subscribers as that contained in Dr. Alford's little work. Now that a Public Health Act has come into force in Ireland, we think the Irish provincial press might well take a hint from the *Somerset Gazette*, and devote a portion of their columns to instructing their readers in hygiene. Dr. Alford touches shortly upon all the questions connected with public health—air, water, food, dwellings, sewage, contagious disease, and disinfectants, are treated of in as concise and popular a manner as is consistent with accuracy. Although written originally for Taunton and Somerset people, we can confidently recommend Dr. Alford's work to such non-professional readers as wish for a general and correct outline of matters connected with public health.

WORKS ON MATERIA MEDICA.

The Specific Action of Drugs on the Healthy System: an Index to their Therapeutic Value, as deduced from Experiments on Man and Animals. By ALEXANDER G. BURNES, M.B., C.M., Univ. Aberd., and F. J. MAJOR, M.R.C.V.S. London: Baillière, Tindall, & Cox. 1874. Pp. 184.

THE book before us is a prominent example of the diversity in the verdicts of reviewers on the works submitted to them. This volume has been lauded in no measured terms by one, characterised as "from first to last a disastrous performance" by another, and received with half-hearted welcome by a third, who claims, and not without warrant, Dr. Burnes as an unavowed adherent of homœopathy.

We have seldom met with a performance which promises so much and fulfils so little. The book is altogether unsatisfactory, full of crude speculations, extravagant assertions, and untrustworthy experiments. We do not hesitate to say that the authors completely fail to establish a single one of the positions which they formally lay down, and, indeed, they do not appear to have the least glimmerings of the conditions under which a physiological or therapeutical inquiry should be conducted. From the joint labours of a medical man possessing an university *imprimatur*, and of a veterinary surgeon, some valuable information might reasonably

be expected, especially in comparative pharmacodynamics. Yet it is difficult to conceive how the "long experience and numerous investigations" of two observers should issue in such an abortive outcome. This may appear to be unnecessarily severe language, but, in the interests of scientific therapeutics, we feel bound to warn our readers from being misled by the pretentious title of the work.

In justification of the strictures we have made, we shall quote *verbatim* an experiment designed to exemplify physiological antidotism, and a case or two which the authors consider to "illustrate clearly what we mean by specific treatment:"—

"A horse was given $1\frac{1}{4}$ grain of strychnine, which induced rigidity of the muscles, &c., within an hour; then 10 grains of acetate of morphia was (*sic.*) given, and in $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour (*sic.*) the horse was nearly well and quiet; while $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours after taking the morphia he had entirely recovered" (p. 23).

What possible inference can be drawn from such a loose statement beyond the fact that the animal survived the two doses of poison? Again:—

"(*h*) In the following case the patient had been subject to irregular action of the bowels, which he had endeavoured to remedy, unsuccessfully, by the use of various nostrums. Under the following treatment the deranged function was restored—viz., restorative doses of tincture of *nux vomica* and sulphur."

This is all we are told. As an instance of specific treatment in animals:—

"(*a*) A horse with the following symptoms:—'Pulse 40, temperature 100°, discharge from eyes and nostrils, attended with sneezing'—was treated with restorative doses of sulphide of potassium and belladonna, and in a few days was restored to health."

We can assure our readers that these are average samples of the general style and reasoning of the book.

Remarks on the Uses of some of the Bazaar Medicines and Common Medical Plants of India. By EDWARD J. WARING, M.D.
Second edition. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1874. Pp. 212.

IN the exceptional circumstances of an enormous country like India, where, of necessity, large numbers of people, such as missionaries, officials, and those engaged in commercial pursuits, are

often far removed from regular medical aid, Dr. Waring's compact little work must supply a pressing want.

The author seems to have performed his task with good judgment. About eighty common and readily procurable indigenous drugs are selected, their native synonyms given, and, under each article, a plain and practical account of its uses is set forth; while in Part. II. a synopsis or index of diseases, with their appropriate treatment, is exhibited as a guide in cases of emergency. In Appendix A we have the Royal Humane Society's "Directions for restoring the apparently dead from drowning;" and in Appendix B. is furnished a "Summary of treatment of persons bitten by venomous snakes," reprinted from Dr. Fayrer's splendid work, "The Thanatophidia of India."

A few European drugs, for which the Indian bazaars supply no adequate substitutes, are recommended to be kept in store; but, with the exception of opium, the actively poisonous drugs are omitted, "and those who follow the directions may feel assured that, with the exercise of ordinary prudence, if they fail to do good, they will at any rate do no harm."

Dr. Waring tells us that animal fats, excepting freshly-prepared ghee, *i.e.*, clarified butter, cannot be used in Indian pharmacy, on account of the heat and the religious prejudices of the natives. Fortunately, India supplies at least two vegetable substitutes—viz., Kokum butter (*Garcinia purpurea*) and Piney tallow (the expressed oil of *Vateria Indica*), and, in addition to these, Dr. Waring has introduced "ceromel," a mixture of wax, 1 part, and honey, 4 parts.

The Student's Guide to Materia Medica. By JOHN C. THOROWGOOD, M.D. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1874. Pp. 318.

THIS little work has one good point in which it differs from other text-books on *Materia Medica*, and that is, the omission of the text of the British Pharmacopœia, which the author assumes that every student possesses and which he is supposed to know. So far as a book of its moderate compass can go, it conveys a good deal of information, more especially in the therapeutic remarks; but within its limits it is simply impossible to fulfil the programme sketched out in the preface. Doubtless the author was hampered by the necessity of confining himself within the hard and fast boundary of this series of "smaller text-books" issued by his

publishers. There is nothing novel in the arrangement or method of discussing the various subjects; the classification of the inorganic bodies is perfectly arbitrary, and, in the organic *Materia Medica*, that useless and perplexing arrangement of the articles under their natural orders is followed.

Botanical Tables, for the use of Students. Compiled by EDWARD B. AVELING, B. Sc. London: 1874. Pp. 14.

WE have looked through these tables, and find that they have been carefully compiled from the standard authorities. As an aid to private study or to class-teaching, we think that they will prove very satisfactory; and they are so lucidly arranged and clearly printed that the eye can seize at once the leading features in the classification.

Thomson's Conspectus, adapted to the British Pharmacopœia. Edited by E. L. BIRKETT, M.D., Cantab. New edition Longmans, Green, & Co. 1874. Pp. 248.

FOR some years past "*Thomson's Conspectus*" has, we believe, been a favourite pocket companion with many, and students seem to find it a useful refresher for an examination. From the fact of a new edition being called for, we must conclude that it supplies a want, and, in a small bulk, it presents an epitome of *Materia Medica*, with appendices containing some miscellaneous information, which may prove serviceable in an emergency.

Before another edition is likely to be required, we would suggest to the editor that he should either excise the Introduction, or, at least, re-model it and correct the glaring errors and inaccuracies with which it abounds. Within the compass of fourteen pages are assembled a number of astounding statements which the merest tyro would scarcely venture on.

Take, for example, the following definitions:—"All the acids employed in Pharmacy, with the exception of the hydrochloric, the hydrocyanic, and the hydrosulphuric acids, are supposed to be compounds of *oxygen* with *one or more* combustible substances" (p. ix.). The italics are not ours. Ammonia, the volatile alkali, "cannot be obtained perfectly pure in a solid form" (p. x.). "Metallic salts are either simple combinations of the metals with oxygen (*sic.*), or combinations of their oxides with acids" (p. xii.). "Aethers are compounds produced from a new arrangement of the elements

of alcohol, by the agency of the acids, at a heat of 160° " (p. xix.). Fancy a student downfacing an examiner in chemistry with such authority, or describing distilled water as prepared "by getting a pewter tube fitted to the spout of a common tea-kettle, which may be kept cool, when in use, by being wrapped round with wet rags" (p. xvi.). It is a pity that such nonsense should be allowed to disfigure an otherwise handy little compendium.

Sulphur in Iceland. By C. CARTER BLAKE, Doct. Sci. London: E. & F. Spon. 1874. Pp. 51.

THE gist of this pamphlet seems to be to induce capitalists to assist a certain Mr. Lock in profitably working the enormous sulphur deposits in the north of Iceland. Considering the vast demands for sulphur in the arts, together with the not remote prospect of the Sicilian supply becoming exhausted, it is singular that for more than twenty years the abundant and almost inexhaustible stores of sulphur in Iceland have been allowed to lie untouched. Dr. Blake makes out a plausible estimate of the cost of working Icelandic sulphur, which appears, on paper, to be much in favour of that island, and we commend the project to those who have spare cash in their pockets and sufficient enterprise for such an undertaking.

Syllabus of Materia Medica, for the Use of Teachers and Students. Second edition. By A. HARVEY, M.D., Prof. of Mat. Med., Univ. Aberd.; and A. D. DAVIDSON, M.D., Assistant Prof. London: H. K. LEWIS. 1874.

THERE are about 900 articles and preparations in the Pharmacopœia, and it might well daunt the most zealous student to tell him at the outset of his studies that he must master all the details of this formidable list.

Yet, as in practice the best physicians limit themselves to a very restricted pharmacopœia, so, we believe, that judicious teachers will confine themselves to a much shorter catalogue, and sensible examiners lay particular stress upon those subjects alone, with which it is essential that the student should be acquainted. Drs. Harvey and Davidson seem quite alive to the hindrances which beset the diligent student; and, in order to lessen the difficulties, they have in this Syllabus attempted to assess all the articles in

the *Materia Medica* under four degrees of "relative value," the numeral (1) being affixed to the most important, and (4) to the least important drugs. They propose also to bind down examiners to a certain range of subjects for pass examinations—a limitation which is adhered to in the University of Aberdeen, and a † is prefixed to the articles selected with this view. The intentions of the authors are doubtless praiseworthy if practicable, and there is reason for their strictures on the evils of over-strained teaching, but we cannot forbear observing that their remarks would come with greater force, from avowed reformers of education, if couched in less clumsy English, and with due regard to correctness of spelling.

De l'Emploi Thérapeutique de l'Arсениc. Par le DR. HIPP. BARELLA., Edit. revue et considérablement augmentée. Bruxelles et Paris. 1866. Pp. 565.

THIS goodly-sized volume is a laborious compilation of the writings and opinions of others, without any pretensions to originality.

The work is divided into six books. The first treats of paludal neuroses or intermittent fevers; the second of "neuropathies;" the third deals with the uses of arsenic in cutaneous diseases; the fourth treats of internal diseases of an asthenic and cachectic nature; the fifth of the external uses of arsenic; and the sixth of the physiological effects of arsenic.

Dr. Barella is enthusiastic, *more Gallico*, on the virtues of arsenic, and he is of opinion that Fowler's solution fairly represents and may be substituted for all other arsenical preparations. It may interest some of our readers to see Dr. Fowler's own formula, which we quote from Dr. Barella:—

Solutio mineralis.

℞.—*Arsenici albi in pulverem subtilissimum triti,*
Salis alcalini fixi vegetabilis purificati, singulorum grana 64,
Aquæ fontanæ distillatæ, libram dimidiam.
Immitantur in ampullam florentinam, quâ in balneo arenæ posita,
aqua lente ebulliat, donec arsenicum perfectè solutum fuerit. Deindè
solutioni frigidæ adde:

Spiritus lavendulæ compositi, unciam dimidiam,
Aquæ fontanæ distillatæ, libram dimidiam, plus vel minus,
Adeo ut solutionis mensurâ libra una accurata sit, vel
Potius pondere unciaë quindécim cum dimidiâ.

On the Past, Present, and Future of Therapeutics; Introductory to the Course of Materia Medica at St. Mary's Hospital. By ROBERT FARQUHARSON, M.D. Edinburgh: 1874.

A SUPERFICIAL sketch of the subject, which contains nothing that calls for special comment. In one place (p. 9) the author decries an accurate acquaintance with *Materia Medica* as practically useless, while a little further on (p. 20) he very properly admonishes his hearers to "study prescriptions well, look at and smell, and even taste drugs, and try to avoid those mistakes and inaccuracies which have ruined many men."

Dr. Pereira's Elements of Materia Medica and Therapeutics. Edited by ROBERT BENTLEY, F.L.S., and THEOPHILUS REDWOOD, Ph.D., F.C.S. London: Longmans, Green, & Co. 1874. Pp. 1,093.

THIS may be considered as the third edition of the abridgment of Pereira's original work, although it differs from the last edition, published in 1872, only in containing comments on the "additions" recently made to the *Pharmacopœia*. It is needless to say that the work contains an abundant store of information for the practitioner and student. It is clearly written, admirably printed, and has been carefully edited up to the present state of chemical and pharmaceutical knowledge.

In the event of another edition being called for, we would suggest to the editors the propriety of placing their names at the head of the title-page instead of Dr. Pereira's.

It is hardly fair to the memory of the late Dr. Pereira to associate his name with an abridgment made after his death, in which all the essential characters of his great cyclopædia are lost, and even the arrangement is altered. So much "levelling up" work has necessarily devolved upon the present editors, that they may justly claim the book as their own, while, at the same time, acknowledging their obligations to Pereira's vast accumulations.

Traité Pratique d'Auscultation appliquée au Diagnostic des Maladies des Organes Respiratoires. Par le DR. MAILLIOT, Professeur particulier de percussion et d'auscultation; ex Vice-Président de la Société Anatomique, etc., etc. Paris. J. B. Baillière et Fils. 1874. Pp. 542.

THIS work is a highly finished and elaborate treatise on the subject it treats of. The author undertook a special study of the English language in order to make himself better acquainted with the investigations of English and American writers on the subject, and his quotations from the works of Elliotson, Stokes, Williams, Hope, Walshe, Bellingham, Flint, Graves, &c., show the extensiveness of the research which he has taken the trouble to make. The first chapter discusses fully the auscultation of the upper air passages in their physiological and pathological condition; the second deals in the same way with the intra-thoracic parts of the respiratory organs; the third is devoted to the physical signs afforded by the pleura, and to the auscultation of voice and cough. The titles of those sections of the latter portion of the work which are headed "auscultation of the voice" and "cough," by no means convey an adequate idea of the amount of information which is presented to the reader. The book is one which will prove most valuable for reference to, and a very complete analytical table of contents affords facilities for doing so.

Notes and Observations on Diseases of the Heart, and on the Lungs in connexion therewith. By THOMAS SHAPTER, M.D., Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians; Senior Physician to the Devon and Exeter Hospital, &c., &c. London: J. and A. Churchill, New Burlington-street. 1874. Pp. 237.

THE modest title of this book is the more charming when we find it used by an author who for *forty-seven years* has had extensive opportunities for observation, and who, moreover, has written well on other subjects, such as the "History of the Cholera in Exeter in 1832," &c. As the name implies, the book does not contain systematic descriptions of the diseases of the heart; it deals more with the elucidation of its symptomatology. It is a work most creditable to the industry of one who has not allowed the exigencies of practice to interfere with the production of a book which must have cost no little time and trouble in its preparation.