

was caused not long ago in London by the report that a patient in the Poplar Hospital was suffering from Asiatic cholera. Upon careful investigation, however, it was determined that the case was simply one of aggravated cholera nostras.—*Medical Record.*

THE FALLACY OF SO CALLED HOT-AIR TREATMENT OF PHTHISIS.—Dr. W. C. Cushman Thomson read a paper on the above subject before the New York Academy of Medicine, in which he gave a review of the results obtained by this method of treatment in America and Europe. Personally he had no experience with it. It had impressed him with false principles, and was in practice likely to lead to negative, if not to absolutely harmful, results. For this reason, he had instituted certain experiments in the Loomis laboratory to determine whether or not the inhalation of hot air could destroy or arrest the development of the tubercle bacillus in the lungs, for this was in fact the object of the treatment. The conclusions from his experiments were: 1. That the continued inhalation of air heated from 200° to over 300° F. (93.3° to 148.8° C.) at the nose did not raise the temperature of the lungs at all in some cases, even when inhaled for an hour or more; in other instances there might be a slight rise, from 2° to 4° F. (1.1° to 2.2° C.), due to other causes. 2. The temperature of the trachea under corresponding conditions rose only 4° to 6° F. (2.2° to 3.3° C.). 3. Cold air did not affect the temperature of the trachea or lungs any more than did hot air. The experiments showed the uselessness of the so-called hot-air treatment of phthisis. Since making these experiments he had learned that like conclusions had been arrived at by a Frenchman. Dr. J. Smith discussed the paper, and said that about two years ago a brother of Weigert was given permission to try his apparatus in the treatment of some cases of tuberculosis in the wards at charity hospitals, but the patients were not so much benefited by this new method as by antiseptic inhalations.—*Provincial Medical Journal*, June 2, 1890, p. 377.

## LIBRARY TABLE.

MESSRS. BLACKISTON, SON & CO.'S PUBLICATIONS.—A *Manual of the Practice of Medicine*, by Frederick Taylor, M.D., F.R.C.P., physician to and lecturer on medicine at Gay's Hospital, etc., with illustrations. The many works on the practice of medicine, which have issued from the press of late years, would seem to have filled all requirements, but there is still room for such a work as Dr. Taylor's. Originality of matter we cannot look for, but the brevity, conciseness and clearness with which the various subjects comprised in the work are treated, renders it of special value to the student and young practitioner. The diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of disease, while fully given, is described without unnecessary verbiage, a great saving of labor for the student, as it enables him to grasp the salient points without wading through elaborate text books to glean them.

A *Compend of Human Anatomy*, including the *Anatomy of the Viscera*, by Samuel A. L. Potter, M.A., M.D., Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine, Cooper Medical College, San Francisco, fifth edition, revised and enlarged. While not taking the place of the larger and more elaborate anatomical works, these quiz compends are of infinite value to the student, and of the several which have come under our notice, none present a more judicious condensation of the subjects treated of than Dr. Potter's last work, which contains an appendix of forty three pages containing an original and complete set of tables and plates of the arteries, cranial and spinal nerves and plexuses, and the sympathetic nervous system. This work should be in the possession of all students of anatomy.

The *Latin Grammar of Pharmacy and Medicine*, by D. H. Robinson, Ph.D., Professor of Latin, University of Kansas. The author claims that the material contained in the pages of his book enabled the students to accomplish twice the amount of work and that more thoroughly than by the ordinary method.