

has now on hand, but whose appearance is stated to be dependent upon the favourable reception which the present one encounters.

In preparing this volume for publication the Editor has been assisted by a large number of the most eminent Medical writers in the United States. Three of the biographies however are from the pen of the Editor, and two from that of Dr. Casper Morris, while the remaining twenty-eight are each by separate writers, among whom we notice the names of Dr. Samuel Jackson, Dr. John W. Francis, Dr. A. E. Hosack, Dr. J. A. Meigs, Dr. E. Hartshorne, Gilman, March, Flint, Hamilton, &c., the number of biographies being thirty-two and the number of authors twenty-eight. Thus ably seconded in his labour of love, the esteemed Editor has favoured us with a work, second to none of its kind, well executed in its design, and well worthy of perusal.

There is no more difficult task than to write a Biography. The biographer has to be just as well as generous, "to extenuate nothing," and "to set down naught in malice." In these respects these biographies exhibit their subjects with an evidently truthful pen, and are samples of what this kind of writing should be. Great care has evidently been bestowed upon them by their respective authors, and if the world at large is desirous of knowing what the life of a physician is and ought to be, we might well point to this volume as one capable of furnishing the fullest information.

We would most willingly have given extracts from some of the biographies did our space permit. In this respect we feel that we must sacrifice our strong inclination and refer our readers to the work itself. Besides we entertain an idea that we should be committing an invidious act, by making a selection from one or two to the exclusion of the rest. We feel it our wiser plan to refer to the volume itself; we will only remark that those whose lives are here detailed are the following men lately adorning the ranks of the profession; Rush, Warren, Wistar, Dorsey, Bard, McDowell, Brown, Godman, Mitchell, Hosack, James, Physick, Eberle, MacNeven, Thacker, McLellan, Randolph, Brigham, Lazenberg, Hartshorne, Morton, the three Becks, Dicke, Chapman, Horner, Swett, Bartlett, Stillé, Warren, and Frick, all of the present generation, with probably only one exception.

We should remark that it was the Editor's intention to have accompanied the memoirs with portraits of the different parties alluded to; the expense however, utterly precluded this. It is embellished nevertheless, with a very faithful steel engraving of the late Dr. Rush.

The volume reflects credit upon the establishment of Messrs. Lindsay and Blakiston from which it emanates.

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ART. XXV.—*A year book of Medicine, Surgery, and their allied Sciences, for 1859*; edited by Drs. HARLEY, HANDFIELD JONES, HEWIT, ODLING, and Mr. HULKE, for the New Sydenham Society. London, 1860, 8vo. pp. 536.

This volume, in pursuance of a German and French custom, is intended to inaugurate a new phase in English Medical literature, that of giving a summary