

attend patients in the city hospital, and the press of the city, voicing public opinion, is now demanding that some change be made. It is suggested that the hospital by law be so amended that any patient occupying a private or semi-private ward shall have the right to employ any physician he may desire. It is thought this would not interfere with the ordinary work of the staff, which would remain unchanged.

The city council and hospital staff have had a number of meetings to consider the matter, and it is thought in a short time the foregoing suggestions will be embodied in the hospital by-law.

MEDICUS.

Hamilton, August 17, 1893.

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### Book Notices.

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"*Syphilis and the Nervous System.*" A revised re-print of the Lettsomian Lectures for 1890, delivered before the Medical Society of London. By W. R. GOWERS, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., Consulting Physician to University College Hospital, Physician to the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, etc. Philadelphia: P. Blackiston, Son & Co. \$1.

This work, as the heading shows, is a reprint of lectures delivered by Dr. Gowers three years ago. They are three in number, and deal exhaustively on the effect of syphilis on the nervous system. The first is on the "Pathology of the Disease"; the second on, "Functional Nervous Disorders attributed to the Disease"; and the third on the "Essential Principles underlying the Prognosis. The book is well indexed, and from the eminence of the author should become one of the classics on the subject.

*Hypnotism, Mesmerism, and the New Witchcraft.* By ERNEST HART, formerly Surgeon to the West London Hospital, and Ophthalmic Surgeon to St. Mary's Hospital, London. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1893.

In the first portion of this little book Dr. Hart explains his own theories in regard to hypnotism, mesmerism, etc., in a very intelligible, concise and readable form. He pays special attention to the differentiation of "true hypnotism" from the various impostures practised under that name by a large class of charlatans. The second portion of

the book relates a number of experiments performed by Dr. Luys, of Paris, and also describes and gives the results obtained by Dr. Hart in a series of counter experiments performed on the patients who were used by Dr. Luys in his experiments. The appendix of the book consists of an open correspondence between Dr. Hart and Dr. Luys relative to the results obtained by Dr. Hart in his counter-experiments. The book is well written, and we would heartily recommend it to all those who are interested in this branch of science.

*The Health Resorts of Europe.* A medical guide to the mineral springs, climatic, mountain and seaside health resorts, milk, whey, grape, earth, mud, sand and air cures of Europe. By THOS. LINN, M.D., Member of the British Medical Association, of the Continental Anglo-American Medical Society, Membre de la Société de Médecine Pratique de Paris, de la Société de Médecine et Climatologie de Nice, France. With an introduction by Titus Munson Coan, M.D. In one volume of 330 pages. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

This work will be found very useful, both by the public and by the profession, in determining which of the many health resorts of Europe would be most suitable for any individual case. All of the more important resorts are treated of separately; the best way to reach them, with cost; the nature of the waters, their therapeutics; the scenery and recreations; the names of the physicians and the hotels and prices. The author is thoroughly master of his subject, and the work will well repay perusal, and will give much useful information in brief form. The publishers have done their work exceedingly well.

*What to do in Cases of Poisoning.* By WM. F. MURRELL, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to, and Lecturer on, Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the Westminster Hospital; late Examiner in Materia Medica in the University of Edinburgh, and to the Royal College of Physicians of London.

The seventh edition of this work, published by H. K. Lewis & Co., 136 Gower Street, London, W. C., has been put on the book market lately. It is a handy little work of nearly 300 pages, and complete, to such a point, as to be practically indispensable to any physician who has cases of