

*Aphorisms in Fractures.* By R. O. COWLING, A.M., M.D. John P. Horton & Co., Lennoxville, Ky., U. S.

This little work contains some good practical information, and, although we may not agree with all it states, we have no hesitation in recommending it to the busy practitioner and the student.

We are in receipt of a little *brochure* from the Trommer Extract of Malt Company, the object of which seems to be to prove that, for medicinal purposes, the extract of barley malt is superior to that of any combination of cereals. So far as our opinion is concerned, this is a foregone conclusion, as all investigation goes to prove that, in regard to the essential (medicinal) principle of malt extract, barley is richer than any other cereal. The facts in regard to this are clearly stated in the pamphlet referred to, as follow :

"The superiority of barley for malting depends partly upon the peculiar structure of the grain, and partly upon the greater solubility of its nitrogenous principles. The protection afforded to the radicle (or shoot) by the husk which envelopes the grain, during germination or malting, is of the utmost importance. The process can go forward to the desired extent without loss by imperfect or incomplete germination. In the malting of wheat, maize, and even oats, a considerable portion is lost or damaged by germinating slightly and then perishing, leaving decayed grains in such abundance as materially to lessen the value of the malt.

"The nitrogenous matter of wheat consists mainly of gluten, albumin and vegetable fibrin, that of oats in avenin, *substances insoluble in water, and which therefore cannot be obtained by maceration or infusion in a watery menstruum.* Wheat and oats are poor in those soluble albuminoids which abound in barley. This solubility of a larger proportion of its nitrogenous matter, in water, prominently characterizes barley, which yields its constituents generously to this convenient menstruum. On the other hand, the poverty of barley in coagulable, glutenous and albuminous matter, renders it comparatively unfit for bread-making. Thus, while barley is rich in all the principles requisite for the nourishment of man, these exist in such form that malting of the grain is alone necessary to make them soluble in water.

"But a remaining fact constitutes a most impor-

tant consideration. Barley is best adapted for malting because *it yields a larger quantity of diastase than any other kind of grain.* Wheat, oats, and Indian corn furnish by malting scarcely sufficient diastase to convert the starch they contain into maltose and dextrine; whereas barley malt yields so large an amount of that important principle that one bushel is capable of converting not only all its own starch but that contained in from four to six bushels of wheat, oats, Indian corn or rice, into maltose and dextrine. Brewers and distillers are in the habit of availing themselves of the diastatic power of barley malt, thus not only saving the expense of malting, but enabling them also to substitute cheaper unmalting grain in the manufacture of ale, beer, &c."

The pamphlet also contains interesting reviews of "the Physiology of Starch Digestion," and the "Value of Carbo-Hydrates as Food" (drawn from most recent scientific researches on these subjects), which make it very interesting to medical readers. Such of our subscribers as have not received a copy of the pamphlet can do so free upon application to Trommer Extract of Malt Co., Fremont, Ohio.

#### PERSONAL.

Dr. John Reddy has resigned his position of attending Physician to the Montreal General Hospital after 25 years' service.

Dr. W. A. Molson has been elected to the In-door staff of the General Hospital, in place of Dr. Reddy resigned.

Dr. Wm. Gardner has been elected on Out-door Staff of the Montreal General Hospital, in place of Dr. Molson, elected on the In-door Staff.

Dr. Henderson has been appointed House Surgeon of the Montreal General Hospital.

Dr. J. A. Macdonald and Dr. Mewburn have been appointed resident clinical assistants at the Montreal General Hospital.

Mr. Ninian C. Smillie, fourth year student at Bishop's College Faculty of Medicine, has been appointed resident clinical assistant at the Woman's Hospital.

Dr. James Bell, of Montreal, who retired a year ago from the House Surgeoncy of the Montreal General Hospital, was on the 19 inst. appointed, under the new By-Laws of the Institution, its Medical Superintendent at a salary of \$1500 the first year, and increasing till \$2000 is reached.