

LECTURES ON LOCALIZATION IN DISEASES OF THE BRAIN. By J. M. Charcot, of the Salpêtrière Hospital, with 45 plates. New York: William Wood & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

To the readers of the *Lancet* no commendation from our pen, of any work bearing the name of the illustrious author of the above-mentioned treatise, can be called for, to ensure its welcome reception. Charcot's present contribution to the knowledge of *Brain Diseases*, is comprised in twelve concise and highly instructive lectures, which we venture to say will be read with unquestioned profit, by every member of our profession who is anxious to obtain a clear understanding of this department of medical science. Where all is excellent, selection of particulars must be embarrassing; yet we venture to express the opinion that the sixth lecture, on *Arterial Circulation in the Brain*; the 7th and 8th in continuation of this subject; the 9th, on "Isolated lesions of the Gray Ganglia"; the 10th, on "Crossed Amblyopia and Lateral Hemiplegia," will well repay perusal. Nay, indeed, we rather should say, they will repay, and they must require for their full understanding, repeated perusals. The following extract from lecture 8th, we offer as an illustrative specimen.

"Hemiplegia, dependent upon alterations confined to the gray ganglia, is generally transitory, passing, lightly marked, not indelible, and in any case is at first comparatively benign. It is understood that in formulating this proposition, I remove all complications capable of greatly modifying the picture; such, for example, would be the eruption of a hemorrhage, however small, into a ventricular cavity. Grave symptoms, such as *early contractions*, or *epileptiform convulsions*, almost necessarily ensue in such cases, and more or less rapid death is generally the necessary consequence of such complication."

We are very sure that in the rich field of observation presented to *Mons. Charcot* in the *Salpêtrière*, he must have encountered a very large proportion of cases presenting "complications capable of greatly modifying the picture" of the "transitory passing, lightly marked, and not indelible "Hemiplegia," alluded to in the outset of the above paragraph—and we are very doubtful if, in any case of *Hemiplegia*, however apparently trivial in its inception, it would be discreet in the attending

physician, to venture on a diagnosis, or prognosis, excluding the incursion, or possibility, of "modifying complications."

CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS: A Hand book for Students and Practitioners of Medicine. Edited by James Finlayson, M.D., Glasgow Western Infirmary, with 85 illustrations. Philadelphia: H. C. Lea. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

The utility of works on clinical diagnosis cannot be overrated. It is common to find a student or even sometimes a medical practitioner, who fails to apply the knowledge he actually possesses, from a want of the art of examining the patient thoroughly. This work endeavors to give the assistance needed, by supplying carefully selected data in a condensed form, by submitting accurate methods of investigation, and by pointing out probable fallacies, etc. Different portions of the work have been written by different persons. Dr. Samson Gemmell has written the part on "Medical Diagnosis;" Dr. Stephenson "Female Disorders;" Dr. Coats "Diseases of the Throat;" Dr. Robertson "Insanity;" and Dr. Gairdner "Physiognomy of Disease."

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF OTOLGY. A quarterly Journal of Physiological Acoustics and Aural Surgery. Edited by Clarence J. Blake, M. D. Price, \$3.00 per annum. New York: W. Wood & Co.

ELEMENTARY QUANTITATIVE ANALYSES. By Alexander Classen, Royal Polytechnic, Aix-la-chapelle, translated by E. F. Smith, A. M., Ph. D., University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: H. C. Lea. Toronto: Hart & Rawlinson.

The above work has been adopted as a textbook in the laboratories of nearly all the German Universities. It has also had considerable circulation among practical chemists.

DISEASES OF CHILDREN. By E. Ellis, M. D., of the Victoria Hospital for Sick Children. Third Edition. New York: Wm. Wood & Co.

This is the second volume of Wood's Library of Standard Medical Authors, and is really a marvel of cheapness. It is a 200 page octavo volume, well bound in cloth, and printed on good paper, for the nominal price of \$1.00. The work itself is already well and favorably known to the profession as a useful, practical work on the diseases of children.