

anasarca, present in our case? Surely, with so much impediment to the progress of the blood through the lungs, caused by the great contraction of the mitral orifice, the right ventricle must have been habitually more distended than can occur in health, and its safety-valve function ought to have been manifested, more especially as the right ventricle was sufficiently hypertrophied to have produced not only visible pulsation of the jugulars, but tricuspid murmur also, had regurgitation existed.

Lastly, (not to protract these observations) it is interesting to note how the scanty admission of blood into the left ventricle was followed by diminution in the capacity of the aorta, and consequent smallness of the pulse (without irregularity or weakness, however), while its retardation in the left auricle, the pulmonary veins, capillaries and arteries, and finally in the right side of the heart, kept the pulmonary artery so distended, that it measured half as much more as the aorta, and at the same time became (i. e. the retardation) the exciting cause of the hypertrophy both of the left auricle and right ventricle, their muscular fibres being excited to increased duty. May not the arrested uterine function have been a consequence of the want of vigour in the system, produced by the diminished supply of arterial blood in the capillaries?

Cornet McGill and Great St. James Streets }
Montreal, May 13, 1833. }

REVIEWS AND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

III.—*A Text Book of Physiology.* By Dr. G. VALENTIN. Translated and edited by WILLIAM BRINTON, M.D. L.R.C.P., &c. Part 1, pp. 320. Henry Renshaw, London.

This work, which has recently issued from the English press, is an abridgement by Professor Valentin of the University of Bern, of the third edition of his more comprehensive treatise "*Lehrbuch der Physiologie*". The translator is medical tutor in King's College, London, and seems to have spared no pains in securing a faithful as well as readable translation; for, after rendering the original into literal English, every word and phrase were carefully weighed, and when expedient, exchanged for simpler or smoother equivalents: he has also appended occasional notes of explanation.

The matter is distributed over 13 chapters, the proportionate length of which does not appear throughout justifiable and equable, for while 58 pages are devoted to circulation, but 34 are allotted to secretion.—Our author shews himself a true German rationalist at the very threshold of his discourse, and shakes our confidence in his ability to do am-