

with delight by that too numerous class, who are always on the look-out for "tips," or "short cuts" into the good graces of their examiners. We would like to impress upon students, that there is no "royal road" to a knowledge of surgery, and consequently they should be content to acquire that knowledge and skill by industry and perseverance, spending as much of their time as possible in the hospitals, and using such text-books as Erichsen and Ashurst, or numerous others that we might mention. We think it should be the object of a distinguished surgeon, like Mr. Christopher Heath, to teach surgery, rather than help candidates to cram just enough information to enable them to squeeze through their examinations.

*Physiology and Histology of the Cerebral Convulsions. Also Poisons of the Intellect.* By CHAS. RICHET, A.M., M.D., Ph.D., Paris. Translated by Ed. P. Fowler, M.D. New York: Wm. Wood & Co. Toronto: Hart & Rawlinson.

This interesting and valuable little book, considerably abridged in its Anglo Saxon garb, is presented by its translator as a fit complement to his translation of Charcot's "Localization in Diseases of the Brain." Being a simple record of the facts pertaining to this subject, acquired to science in the past, and eschewing all doubtful and disputable matter, the work presents but a limited field for criticism, and all we have to say is commendatory. The translation has been well and faithfully done, and English readers are indebted to Dr. Fowler for a compendium of scraps of knowledge only to be found, so far as we are aware, scattered throughout the periodical literature and the transactions of the learned societies of England, France, Germany, Italy, and America. The work is divided into four sections: two Parts, and two Chapters. Part First treats of the Structure of the Convulsions; Part Second of their Physiology. Chapter First relates to their Physiological Properties; and Chapter Second to their Functions. The Appendant on "Poisons of the Intelligence" is also an abridgment of a monograph by the French author bearing this title, and is a short chapter presenting an analysis of the symptoms resulting

from the action of alcohol, chloroform, haschisch, and coffee on the brain. It is an interesting addition to the book, but presents nothing strikingly new or original. The work, as a whole, will prove indispensable to English readers desirous of being *au courant* with the times. No exception can be taken to the get up of the book, whose style and appearance reflects nothing but credit upon its publishers, Messrs. Wm. Wood & Co., of New York.

*Analysis of the Urine.* By K. B. HOFMANN, Professor in the University of Gratz; and R. ULTMANN, Docent in the University of Vienna. Translated by T. Barton Brune, A.M., M.D., of the Maryland University Hospital; and H. Holbrook Curtis, Ph. B. New York: D. Appleton & Co., Broadway Toronto: Hart & Rawlinson. 1879.

This valuable manual of urinary analysis is a work which has attained much deserved popularity amongst students of medicine and practitioners in the Vaterland; and we venture to bespeak for its translation an equally favourable reception in the New World. The subject matter of the book is preceded by a short introductory chapter giving an interesting but necessarily very brief account of the historical progress of urinary analysis from the days of Hippocrates until now. Chapter i., a short one, is devoted to a cursory glance at the histology of the urinary organs; and its still more brief successor deals with the excretion of the urine. After a rapid survey of the various theories upon the subject, the honest conclusion is arrived at, that "a perfectly satisfactory explanation of the secretion and excretion of the urine in all its details is wanting." Then follows an admirable chapter (iii.) on the urine, its physical, chemical, and microscopical properties and constituents in health and disease. This we cannot too highly commend to the careful perusal and leisurely digestion of the student; while we are persuaded that the busy practitioner, puzzling over some disappointing and unsatisfactory analysis, will herein find many a ray of light to clear up his perplexing difficulties. A brief chapter (iv.), describing reagents and apparatus, is here inserted; after which comes an excellent account (chapter v.) of the