

Mr. Holmes Spicer, deals with striated opacity of the cornea which he holds is due to rumpling of Descemet's membrane or to engorgement of Bowman's tubules, secondary to inflammation of the adjoining uvea.

Mr. Devereux Marshall, also contributes a very useful article on the pathological examination of the eye.

These with a few shorter papers go to make up this number of the reports, which is most instructive. J. W. S.

A System of Practical Medicine by American Authors. By LOOMIS AND THOMPSON. Vol. I, Infectious Diseases. Lea Brothers & Co., Philadelphia, 1897.

The name of the late Prof. Alfred Loomis, who is both editor and contributor to this new practice of medicine, is too universally respected already, to render any favourable criticism of his works necessary. Intimately associated with all the greatest medical minds on the continent, he readily secured as collaborators those whose work and experience place them at the high water mark of medical science in America.

Already in the first volume, one finds among its contributors Prof. W. H. Welch, Wm. Osler, J. C. Wilson, James Stewart, Geo. Sternberg, Geo. Dock, et al.

Dr. Gilman Thompson has been associated with the editor from the inception of the undertaking, and since the death of his colleague the entire work fell to his hands.

The first volume dealing with infectious diseases, opens with a lengthy article on malaria, by Welch and Thayer, than which probably no better article on the subject has ever been published in a work on practical medicine. The detailed description of the parasitology by Dr. Welch and the complete discussion of the anatomical and clinical features by Dr. Thayer are such as to render the material of extreme value.

Dr. J. C. Wilson contributes the chapter on enteric fever, which is more especially useful in view of the excellent pages concerning the treatment of that malady. The newer features of diagnosis by serum tests are not considered, his article doubtless having been contributed some length of time before the final publication.

Too much cannot be said in praise of Dr. Park's comprehensive section on diphtheria. The author is peculiarly well fitted for this work, having formerly practiced laryngology and of recent years being engaged as one of the directors of the Bacteriological Laboratories in the New York Department of Public Health. One cannot but commend in particular the pages on diagnosis and on pseudo-diphtheria.

One need merely say that the chapter on tuberculosis, covering about 120 pages is written by Dr. Osler, to realise how greatly enhanced thereby is the value of the work. An essentially practical and scientific article on tetanus is contributed by Dr. James Stewart; among other collaborators are the names of J. P. C. Griffiths, G. Robinson, W. James, etc.