

for its object the study of the organic elements of the human body, in reference to their form and appearance, and the changes imprinted on them by disease. It constitutes the basis of Physiology and Pathology, and its importance to the physician and surgeon may be therefore estimated. In this branch of science few have labored harder, or devoted themselves with more untiring energy than Mr. Morel of Strasbourg, and Dr. Van Buren of New-York has performed an essential service to the student and the physician, but especially to the former, in translating and laying before them the truly valuable compendium before us.

The work is divided into ten chapters, the subjects of which are as follow :—
 1. Cells and Epithelial membranes ; 2. Fibres ; Connecting Tissue ; 3. Cartilage—Bone—Teeth ; 4. Muscular Tissue ; 5. Elements of Nervous Tissue ; 6. Vessels—Arteries—Veins—Capillaries and Lymphatics ; 7. Glands ; 8. Skin and its appendages ; 9. Intestinal mucous membrane ; and 10. Organs of Sense, while a last chapter is devoted to an explanation of the plates, of which there are twenty-eight, drawn by Villemin after the instructions of M. Morel, and lithographed in the highest style of the art. In fact so beautifully executed are these drawings of microscopic subjects, that at first we mistook them for steel engravings.

We must confess that we know of no work on Histology which for conciseness, and adaptability to the instruction of the student in this important department of his acquired information, and which yet embodies every thing of moment, that can at all compare with the one before us. We therefore cordially commend it to them, satisfied that they will find their outlay in its purchase amply recompensed. It is printed and published in the well known style of Messrs. Ballière, Brothers, of New-York, of whose press we cannot but consider it one of the best productions.

ART. XXIV.—*Lives of eminent American Physicians and Surgeons of the Nineteenth Century* ; Edited by SAMUEL D. GROSS, M.D., Prof. of Surgery in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. Philadelphia, Lindsay and Blakiston. Montreal, Dawson & Son, 1861, 8vo. pp. 836.

The volume now before us, owes its existence to the strong desire of the Editor, to fill up a hiatus in American Medical Biography, "to popularize the profession, and to place its services and its claims more conspicuously than has yet been done before the American people." With the exception of fugitive biographies which have from time to time appeared in Medical Journals, only two attempts of this character have previously been made, that of Dr. James Thacker published in Boston in 1828 in two volumes, and that of Dr. Stephen W. Williams an octavo of six hundred and fifty pages in 1845, and which was intended as a continuation of Mr. Thacker's work. This latter volume brings the Biographical record down to 1828; and Dr. Gross's volume most worthily continues it to the present period. This volume however is but the prelude to a subsequent one, a considerable quantity of the matter for which the Editor