

'syphilis.' This quotation quite clearly sets forth the author's views as to the origin of syphilis so far as Europe is concerned. The author leans to the opinion that the spirochætæ may vary somewhat as do the varieties of men and dogs. This may account for some of the marked differences to be found in cases among different tribes. With regard to marriage the two year limit is held to be sufficient in the case of the male, as sperm contagion is not conveyed after that period when treatment has been efficient. In the case of the female much more caution is necessary, as germ infection may persist much longer, and it is necessary to insist upon more thorough observation, and a more prolonged period of treatment. The author adheres to the view that inheritance of the disease may be paternal. He does not agree with the argument based upon the size of the spirillum as compared with the sperm cell. He still refuses to admit the possibility of third-generation syphilis. With regard to tertiary symptoms it is held that the disease during the secondary period affected certain parts or tissues and so affected their vitality as to render them liable to inflammatory and degenerative changes. On the matter of treatment the author still finds the tonic doses of mercury to be a safe and certain means of treatment and will cure the case completely. Of all the forms of mercury, preference is given to small doses of grey powder in pill form. When diarrhœa occurs a little Dover's powder may be administered. One grain of each is recommended. The earlier the treatment is begun the better, as the milder the secondaries the less tertiaries. In cases of symptoms of general paralysis of the insane, the mercurial treatment ought to be made continuous, but in small doses. This book should be studied by all who wish to understand syphilis.

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### USUAL THERAPEUTICS FOR THE PRACTITIONER.

Clinical Therapeutics of the Faculty of Medicine of Paris. By Prof. Albert Robin, Member of the Academy of Medicine. First series: Vigot Bros., editors, 23 Placé de l'Ecole de Médecine. Paris: 1 vol. 8vo. Price, 8 francs.

The great object of the author of this book is to study vital reactions and to oppose to them an essentially functional therapeutic. He contends that a satisfactory system of treatment cannot be based upon the reigning theories in pathology. There are lectures on the different systems and organs of the body. The book is a very valuable addition to our present literature on therapeutics. It should soon be translated into English, and would in this way find many appreciative readers.