

Lee's Lectures on Syphilitic Infection and Syphilisation. From Dr. Gibb, London.

Smith's Oration, "the Improvements in modern Surgery," delivered before the Medical Society of London, at the eighty-first anniversary. From the Author.

Circular of the Montreal School of Medicine and Surgery.

Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania. 1854.

Catalogues of Books.—We have received Messrs. Blanchard & Lea's Illustrated Catalogue, for 1854. It contains samples of the illustrations to be found in many of the medical works recently issued by that celebrated publishing house. Highley's Student's Guide to the Class Books used at the London Schools of Medicine is also at hand. We shall be happy to lend them to any of our readers desirous of obtaining such information as they are designed to afford.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.—No. 3.

(Continued.)

Spina Bifida, a new plan of treatment by Mr. Paget.—From the peculiar nature of this affection, owing to the almost invariable implication of the spinal cord, or its nervous branches, as have been satisfactorily shown by Cruveilhier, Stafford, Prescott Hewitt and other writers, we cannot expect that any surgical operation will ever prove successful, unless in certain cases in which the nerves of the cord have no connection with the sac of the tumor, or where very few branches are in connection with it, or where the tumor may be so small that its opening of communication with the spinal canal is in accordance with the size of the tumor itself. Of 20 cases examined by Mr. Hewitt in various collections, only one was free from contact with the spinal nerves, and Cruveilhier again believes, from his dissections, that the connection between the tumor and the nerves is constant. This testimony, of course, invalidates very much against operative procedure. We shall find, however, on reference to the medical journals, that cases are occasionally cured, and many modes of treatment have been adopted with or without success; I may mention, for instance, pressure by means of a hollow pad or truss, puncturing the sac, ligature around the tumor, injections of iodine, removal, or any of these combined. Dr. Brainerd, of Chicago; U. S., cured 1 out of 4 cases by the iodine injections, and Velpeau and Chassaig-