

Of course we do not for a moment claim for Dr. Anstie the credit of *originality* in these views, but we are certain that he is the first who has strongly advocated the necessity of considering neuralgia proper as a disease *per se*. Directed, as we thus are, to the *individuality* of neuralgia, we are thus naturally led to consider what are its associates, and what its hereditary tendencies? These interesting features of the disease are in all parts abundantly dwelt upon and illustrated. The true *neurotic* temperament (probably in all cases more or less directly inherited), together with the manifold causes which are apt to work upon and increase the development of this inherent susceptibility of the nervous system, comes in for its full share in the production of those nervous disorders which are the subject of the treatise. The relation of the different neurotic affections, the one to the other, and the differences between them, afford us some of the most absorbing and, at the same time, most avowedly difficult problems in the whole range of medical science. The clear and logical mind of our author shines most conspicuously when attempting the solution of some of these questions, and whilst never letting go the main idea, as just explained, he is often led to remarks on these kindred affections which show the keen observer and astute logician (we mean one who can appreciate *differences*, not *resemblances* only), and where space does not permit of amplification he always succeeds in furnishing abundant material for independent thought and research.

This volume is divided into two parts, together with an introduction on pain in general. Part I. contains five chapters, devoted respectively to the following, viz.: Clinical History, Complications, Pathology and Etiology, Diagnosis and Prognosis, and Treatment of Neuralgia. Part II. is devoted to the diseases that resemble neuralgia, and consists of eleven chapters, viz.: Myalgia, Spinal Irritation, the Pains of Hypochondriasis, of Locomotor Ataxy, of Cerebral Abscess, of Alcoholism, of Syphilis, of Sub-Acute and Chronic Rheumatism, of Latent Gout, Colic and other Pains of Peripheral Irritation, and, lastly, Dyspeptic Headache.

In discussing the Clinical History of Neuralgia, special stress is laid upon the presence of *debility* as necessary for the development of any form of this affection—debility, shown either by the generally reduced condition of the patient from any cause, or, at any rate, debility of the nervous system, and care is taken to explain how the latter may truly exist, whilst at the same time the person may present all the external appearances of being in the enjoyment of the most robust health. This is a point on which we are quite on the side of the author, although high authorities have spoken against its correctness.