

from the ear to the temple. These symptoms of cerebral irritation frequently cause great alarm to the patient and his friends, and appear to be the result of pressure of the polypus on the outer surface of the membrana tympani, and chain of ossicles, which causes a movement towards the cavity of the vestibule of the inner extremity of the chain, producing continuous tension of the fluid of the vestibule. This is clearly shown by careful inspection of a specimen prepared by me for the purpose, by which it is manifest that, although there are two articulations between the long process of the malleus and the base of the stapes, yet the slightest movements inward of the processus longus mallei causes the base of the stapes to be pressed inward towards the cavity of the vestibule; and as has been already stated, pressure on the contents of the vestibule appears to produce results very similar to those of pressure on the brain. According to my own observation, the former give rise to, first, a sensation of noises; secondly, confusion of ideas; thirdly, giddiness and insensibility." p. 111.

There are several other subjects we should like to bring under the notice of our readers, but we are prevented doing so, for want of space. We must not close this short notice, however, without directing their attention to Mr. Toynbee's remarks upon the use of the artificial membrana tympani; the connexion between diseases of the ear and cerebral disease; how proposals for life insurance, should be considered in relation to actual or previous disease of the ears. The latter subject appears to have been overlooked by most insurance offices. These matters though highly interesting and important must be studied in the treatise itself, which we hope to find in the libraries of many of our brethren. The work is illustrated by numerous wood cuts remarkable for their anatomical accuracy and artistic finish, and the type and getting up of the book are in the best style of the spirited publishers, Blanchard & Lea of Philadelphia.

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## PERISCOPIC DEPARTMENT.

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### MEDICINE.

#### A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF THE DISEASE KNOWN AS BRONZED SKIN, OR DISEASE OF THE SUPRA-RENAL CAPSULES.

By EDWARD B. DALTON, M. D., Resident Physician of St. Luke's Hospital, New York.

(Conclusion.)

*The Pathology* of this disease is still involved in great obscurity. Notwithstanding the amount of labour that has been spent upon this question, little has yet been gained, except so far as controversy, and its consequent stimulation to further inquiry is a benefit. Autopsies in great number have been made, but with no decisive result. Series of