

ART. IV.—*A Handbook of Hospital Practice, or an introduction to the practical study of medicine at the bedside.*—By ROBERT D. LYONS, K.C.O., M.B., T.C.D., &c. &c. New York: Samuel S. & William Wood; Montreal, B. Dawson & Son. 1861. 12mo. pp. 185.

We have examined this little work, and find it one which should be in the hands of every medical student. We think that the author has done, in the publication of this volume, a valuable service to every student of medicine, who after a careful study of it, must become directed into the proper mode of examining the cases in the wards of an hospital, and while it thus simplifies his method of investigation, his knowledge of, or acquaintance with, disease must become proportionally augmented.

In the commencement of the work, the author gives a systematic table of the various diseases, as adopted in the system of nosology or classification of them, proposed and employed by Dr. Wm. Farr, the Registrar General, in the registration of deaths in England, which has been placed under his well known superintendence. He then details the chief external features of a case to which the student should direct his attention, and finally the principal internal ones, and gives explicit directions for the management of the stethoscope, percussion, palpation of the abdomen &c., all of which require so much tact on the part of the physician. The last part of the volume contains the rules for conducting post-mortem examinations, which with the former, we consider the most valuable part of the work. The book finally concludes with blank forms for the detail of cases, for the purpose of showing the students the way in which cases should be drawn up or reported.

We do not know a more valuable work which could be placed in the hands of a student: indeed it contains lessons, from which many a practising physician might derive advantage and, perchance, instruction. Every student, in attendance at an hospital, should possess himself of a copy as a guide to his investigations there, as well as for the purpose of systematizing his clinical studies, and he should have its contents as familiar in his memory as those of a "Dublin Dissector." We most cordially commend this work to the attention of our young friends in attendance at the hospitals, assuring them that they will never regret the small outlay demanded for its purchase.

## PERISCOPIC DEPARTMENT.

### MEDICINE.

#### HISTORY OF THE CHOLERA AT MONTREAL.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

Sir,—Some time ago I applied to my friend A. F. HOLMES, M.D., of Montreal for certain information respecting the Cholera Asphyxia as it has occurred in that city, and have lately received from him a very ample and interesting reply. It is submitted entirely to your judgment, whether the following abbreviation of the material facts may be acceptable to the profession.