

## THE MATTISON METHOD IN MORPHINISM.

A modern Humane Treatment of the Disease. By J. B. Mattison, M.D., Medical Director, Brooklyn Home for Narcotic Inebriates. Published by E. B. Treat & Co., New York, 1902. Price \$1.00.

THIS little book can be highly recommended. It should be in the hands of every one who has a morphine habitué to treat, and who has not at some time or other? The advice is sound and the results very satisfactory. There is a judicious use of the bromides while the morphia is being withdrawn. But the little book must be read to be fully appreciated.

THE TREATMENT OF TABETIC ATAXIA BY MEANS OF  
SYSTEMATIC EXERCISE.

An exposition of the Principles and Practice of Compensatory Movement Treatment. By Dr. H. S. Frenkel Medical Superintendent of the Sanatorium "Freihof" in Heiden (Switzerland). Only Authorized English Edition Translated and Edited by L. Freyberger, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Eng., Pathologist to the Great Northern Central Hospital &c. With 103 Illustrations Price \$3.00. Philadelphia, P. Blakiston's Son & Co. 1902, Toronto, Chandler & Massey

DR. FRENKEL published his first observations on this method of treatment in 1889. Since then he has been working hard at this subject. He does not claim for this plan of treatment that it will cure the disease, only that it controls the ataxia. The essential features of the treatment are its simplicity and that it can be carried out with very little apparatus; and that the results come from repeating certain movements, that is from exercise, rather than from athletic strengthening of the muscles. The first portion of the book deals with the theory of ataxia, and discusses such topics as incoördination, causation of tabetic ataxia, muscular hypotonia in tabes, theory of tabetic ataxia &c. This portion of the work is particularly well done. The author claims that sensory impressions, coming from objects around us, as well as from moving parts of our body, are requisite for the production of coördination. These sensations are necessary for the acquisition of new movements and also for the performance of those already acquired. Our relation to the external world is derived mainly through the sensibility of the skin; while our knowledge of the position of our limbs depends upon the sensibility of the joints and muscles. We must regard the limbs as objects of the external world, and that their various conditions are transmitted to the central nervous system by means of sensory impressions in the same way as if they belonged to the world outside. It is on this theory of ataxia that the author works out his method of treatment.

The most important characteristic of the muscular substance is its ability of being exercised, or reproducing in a peculiar manner, impressions,