

*A Contribution to the Study of the Blood and Blood-pressure.* Founded on portions of the Croonian Lectures delivered before the Royal College of Physicians, London, 1896, with considerable extensions. By GEORGE OLIVER, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Lond.). London: H. K. Lewis, 136 Gower Street, W.C. 1901.

This is another effort to solve, by experimental methods, some of the problems connected with the blood and its circulation. The blood of a large number of healthy subjects was examined with a view to ascertain the influence of age and sex, and to determine the effects of exercise, of rest, of digestion, and of other physiological causes of variation in the proportion of the corpuscles and hemoglobin.

In the first chapter the hemoglobinometer and the hemocytometer are described, and the principles of their construction and use are explained. The author very candidly points out some of the difficulties he met in experimenting with these instruments, and indicates how some of these difficulties were overcome.

Experiments were made to determine the normal variations in the hemoglobin and the corpuscles, and these are described in the second and third chapters. The author states that no less than 40,000 observations were made with the object of determining the physiological and clinical variations in the chromocytes and hemoglobin. The results of these observations show that exercise in healthy subjects leads to an increase of hemoglobin, but in extreme degrees of anemia active exercise diminishes the amount of hemoglobin, while with complete rest in anemia the amount of hemoglobin is rapidly increased.

The remaining chapters are devoted to a study of the circulation by means of various instruments. The author states that the physician in his daily work has not been able to derive much assistance from knowledge obtained in the laboratory regarding variations in blood-pressure and from other features of the circulation. The reason for this lies in the fact that we have not had suitable and reliable apparatus for making proper clinical observations. Instruments, which have been devised with a view to overcome these obstacles, are described and their clinical uses are explained.

This book is a distinct gain to our store of knowledge relating to physiology. The author has tried, by careful experiments and observations, to reach conclusions that will prove to be of practical value to the general practitioner in his daily work.

A. E.

*Traité Pratique des Déviations de la Colonne Vertébrale.* Par P. REDARD, Ancien Chef de Clinique Chirurgicale de la Faculté de Médecine de Paris; Chirurgien en Chef du Dispensaire Furtado-Heine; Membre Correspondant de l'American Orthopedic Association. Paris: Masson et Cie., éditeurs, 120 Boulevard Saint-Germain.

I have read this work with the deepest interest; it is the best presentation of the subject which has been made. Like most monographs it is written by a man who gives of his abundance, who puts down what he knows because he has a practical acquaintance with his subject.

The first part of his book discusses antero-posterior pathological deviations of the spine. In pathology and pathological anatomy he could not expect to give much that is new. His discussion of treatment is masterly. As a Frenchman he gives prominence to Calot's method of forcible correction of the deformity in Pott's disease. While on the one hand it must be claimed that he makes out a much more favorable case for that method of treatment than English or American surgeons are willing to admit; yet it must also in fairness be said that he does not write as a partisan but as a surgeon who maintains a strictly judicious attitude. He himself has had large experience, having operated upon 120 cases without death or serious accident. He considers the method of treatment of forcible redressment and maintenance of the improved attitude a marked therapeutic advance.

The second part deals with roto-lateral deviations. His presentation of the