

TREATMENT OF LACHRYMAL AFFECTIONS. By PROF. ARLT, Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Vienna. Translated by J. F. Weightman, M.D. Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia.

This work, as it professes, is nothing but a pamphlet upon the important subject of Lachrymal Affections. The translator thinks that, by the careful perusal of this work, the lachrymal probe may nearly always be introduced with ease and safety where previously the introduction was attended with much difficulty. The following passage occurs upon page 18 :

The dilation of the natural passage I have practised for nearly two years, with slight modifications, exactly according to Bowman's method, only the idea from which I proceeded, or, rather, to which I was led in the course of my observations, is other than that which appears to have been in the mind of the great reformer of the treatment of lachrymal affections. I hold the opinion, that for the restoration of the normal function, so great a distension as is produced by Bowman's probes No. 5 and 6, is neither necessary nor without danger.

It is not necessary, for, in the course of the last three years, I have seldom employed No. 5, and never No. 6, and yet I have obtained many lasting results. Indeed, since that time I have had in scarcely a case to complain of adhesions of the canaliculi or nasal duct as a consequence of using the probe. It is the large probes, according to my mind, which may cause wounds and after-adhesions, even though the instrument be correctly introduced.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, fourth and fifth Annual Meetings ; Niagara, N. Y., June, 1867 ; Newport, R. I., July, 1868.

We have to thank Dr. Noyes, of New York, for a copy of these transactions, valuable in many respects, but principally so from the fact that it is an evidence of the great importance which this branch of medical science now holds in the estimation of the profession and the public. We first have a list of the members of the Society, the whole number being fifty, and comprising the best known oculists of the day. We notice the following papers as having been presented to the Society during the two sessions : Reports on the progress of Ophthalmology, for 1865 and 1866, by Dr. B. J. Jeffries, Boston ; and for 1867, by Dr. G. Hay, of Boston. Observations in Astigmatism, by H. D. Noyes, New York. Case of acquired Astigmatism, by Dr. Pomeroy. Modification of Probes for the Lachrymal passages, by H. W. Williams, of Boston. On the use of Styles of Lead in the treatment of Disease of the Lachrymal Sac, by J. Green, of St. Louis. Also, papers on Mydriatics, in Glaucoma, Sympathetic Ophthalmitis. Case of Encephaloid Tumor springing from the Eye-ball, simulating Glaucoma, etc., etc., numbering twenty-

five papers in all. We suppose that copies can be procured through the well known houses of W. C. Chewett & Co. and Adam Stevenson & Co., of this city.

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF THE MEDICAL SCIENCES, for July, edited by Isaac Hays, M.D., and published by the well known firm of H. C. Lea, Philadelphia, has been received, and keeps up its well earned reputation. The contents embrace Original Communications ; Transactions of Societies ; Reviews ; Bibliographical Notices ; and a Quarterly Summary of the improvements and discoveries in the Medical Sciences.

Correspondence.

THE NEW MEDICAL ACT.

THE HOMŒOPATHS AND ECLECTICS.

MR. EDITOR,

I am sure your readers will excuse me for sending you the following note. I have been censured by some medical friends whose good opinion I value, for having originated the scheme for admitting *Homœopaths and Eclectics* to registration, and representation in the Medical Council. That is, upon condition of their first undergoing the same curriculum of studies, and submitting to the same examinations, save in practice of physic, &c., as students in orthodox medicine. And it is upon these examinations that the whole efficacy of the new act depends. It is true that the respective "Homœopathic" and "Eclectic" acts also require of their students for admission a certain curriculum of studies, but it is also true that these requirements have not been carried out *bona fide*. I know of licentiates, under the Eclectic Act at least, who never attended a lecture or a hospital in their lives.

In introducing my resolution in the council, at its session in Ottawa two years ago, I explained my reasons for so doing, which I now repeat, and submit, as good and satisfactory reasons still. I then stated, that whereas the Homœopaths and Eclectics now enjoyed the same legal rights as the "Regulars," while at the same time, the public had no warrant of their knowledge of medical science, and accordingly might be fatal sufferers at their hands, the carrying out of my proposition, would greatly remedy the existing evil. That if hereafter all candidates for their ranks must, after submitting to a regular curriculum of studies in the primary and scientific branches of the profession, undergo an examination as a test of their knowledge in those branches of medical science, such as regular students must do, the public would be protected against