

The neuralgias and some forms of local paralysis are the affections in which electrical currents have produced the most satisfactory results.

A considerable number of cases which have fallen under the author's notice are quoted in illustration of the various points, but, considering his extended opportunities for observation in connection with the State Hospital for nervous diseases, we think they might have been considerably augmented, especially as it is professedly a clinical and practical treatise.

We cordially recommend this book to every one desirous of acquiring information concerning the applicability of and the modes of applying electricity in the cure of disease.

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*The Sphygmograph: its physiological and pathological indications.* The essay to which was awarded the Stevens' Triennial prize by the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, April, 1873. Two hundred and ninety illustrations, by EDGAR HOLDEN, A.M., M.D., 8vo. pp. 169. Philadelphia, LINDSAY & BLAKISTON.

The field adopted by Dr. Holden is, as he himself remarks, pathless and virtually unexplored. It is but a very short period since the invention of the sphygmograph of Prof. Morey, and the observations recorded having as yet been too comparatively limited, it follows that all the results here given are entirely original: and when we consider that we have presented to us nearly three hundred plates of pulsatile tracings, representing specimens from all conceivable kinds of disorders, we may form some idea of the amount of time and labor necessarily bestowed upon their investigation.

The Essay begins with a necessary description of the mechanism of the instrument. Dr. Holden's sphygmograph is a modification of that invented and used by Prof. Morey. In the latter the plate or surface which first receives the impulse from the artery is so arranged as simply to lie upon the vessel in close apposition with it, and to rise and fall