

I little expected about forty years ago that I should live to see my eighty-second volume and that it still maintains its popularity. I am now seventy-four years of age, but feel uncommonly well, thanks to being a total abstainer from alcohol for nearly thirty years.

A letter just received by Mr. Townsend, dated February 3, from Dr. James Braithwaite says:

I grieve to have to inform you of my father's death, which occurred on January 31 last. He died without any suffering and from failure of the heart, which had been noticeable for twelve months previously. I shall carry on *The Retrospect* with the assistance of Dr. A. G. Barre, assistant physician to the Leeds General Infirmary. I have done all the heavy work of the book for twenty-five years, that is, all the writing.

It will be seen *The Retrospect* will be published, as before, under his editorial charge, assisted by able colleagues. Dr. James Braithwaite's name has appeared on its title-page connectedly with his distinguished father's for a quarter century.

REVIEWS.

Transactions of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Philadelphia. Volume Seventh, Philadelphia. For sale by P. Blakiston, Son & Co.

This volume shows that good work has been done during the year by the members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Philadelphia. It contains sixteen papers and discussions thereon. All are of more or less interest, and show that much attention has been devoted to their preparation. We would suggest to the Editorial Committee of the College the advisability of having the leaves of future volumes cut.

A Practical Treatise on the Diseases of the Ear, including a Sketch of Aural Anatomy and Physiology. By D. B. ST. JOHN ROOSA, M.D., LL.D. Professor of Diseases of the Eye and Ear in the New York Post Graduate Medical School and President of the Faculty; Surgeon to the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital; Consulting Surgeon to the Brooklyn Eye and Ear Hospital; formerly Professor of Ophthalmology in the University of the City of New York, and Diseases of the Eye and Ear in the University of Vermont; formerly President of the Medical Society of the State of New York, etc., etc. Sixth Edition, Revised and Enlarged, pp. 718. New York: William Wood & Company, 1885

The fact that the American profession has called for six editions of this work in eleven years is sufficient proof of its high merits. The work has been favorably received in Great Britain and Ireland. The sixth edition is of the same high standard of its predecessors. The work is of a decidedly original character, conclusions being based upon an experience derived from over twelve thousand cases. It is fully illustrated, and will serve as a clear and reliable guide to the general practitioner, having charge of ear cases, as well as to those who devote themselves especially to that subject.

A Theoretical and Practical Treatise on the Hemorrhoidal Disease; giving its History, Nature, Causes, Pathology, Diagnosis and Treatment. By WILLIAM BODENHAMER, A.M., M.D. Illustrated by two chromo-lithographic plates, and thirty-one woodcuts. pp. 297. New York: Wm. Wood & Co., 1884.

This is a very complete and excellent work by one who has written a good deal on the diseases of the rectum, and who is entitled to speak with authority concerning the hemorrhoidal disease.

The author introduces a short and interesting Hebraic history of the disease, showing it to be the oldest mentioned in ancient history. It is mentioned in the Fifth Book of Moses under the name of Emerods, as one of the punishments of the children of Israel for their disobedience.

The pathology of the affection is clearly described, the author holding that the commencement of the disease is in the vessels of the rectum. The coats of these vessels first becoming diseased, and then the sanguine flexion occurring as a consequence of this weakened condition of the walls of the vessels and not as a cause.

Under the head of Etiology, the influence of heredity, temperament and climate, etc., etc., as predisposing, and of diet, constipation, mode of dress, etc., etc., as exciting causes, are very fully discussed.

The subjects of diagnosis and treatment are particularly full, explicit and complete. The advantages of the different methods of surgical treatment are compared, that by ligation as performed by Mr. Allingham being favored. The different modes of excision and injection are carefully explained in detail. The book is well worthy of a place in every medical library.