

will bring to an end a controversy which has troubled the profession for many years.

## Reviews and Notices of Books.

A NON-SURGICAL TREATISE ON DISEASES OF THE PROSTATE GLAND AND ADNEXA. By GEO. W. OVERALL, A.B., M.D. Chicago: Rowe Publ. Co., 1906.

The reviewer, having lost a certain amount of time in reading this book, finds himself at the end willing enough to express his opinion of it. It is, as a matter of fact, a most entertaining book when looked at from the standpoint of style and spelling; and will be read with pleasure by those whose studies have tended more towards electricity than pathology. The book ought, really, to have been published in serial form in *The Medical Brief*, or *The Alkaloidal Clinic*. There the author might have found more numerous and more appreciative readers; at any rate, might have found many to enjoy the colloquial case-report so characteristic of those journals. We may be pardoned for quoting in part one of the gems of the collection. "I recall one case who said the first time he had his attention called to any defect in his left foot was by his wife, when walking upon the street, when she said: "Will! for goodness sake, quit scraping your foot on the pavement.'" It turned out that the gentleman in question had developed a left hemiparesis. Dr. Overall lost some time at first in treating his spine with electricity; but, fortunately, soon got upon the right track, treated his prostate with various forms of "electrical force," and cured him.

The mention of this matter brings us to the question of treatment. Here the reviewer must refrain from judging, and confess ignorance. We know, personally, nothing of the sinusoidal current in the treatment of "Neuroses of the Prostate." We hardly even knew that the prostate might be neurotic. We know nothing, or practically nothing, of the treatment of hypertrophied prostate by the "use of cataphoresis with one per cent. solution of thuja through the prostatic urethra." We did think we knew something of tuberculosis of the prostate, but Dr. Overall informs us that the thing does not exist; in fact, that it is a mere diagnostic city of refuse for those who have failed to treat successfully "chronic prostatitis." Our ignorance, it appears, has been both positive and negative, if the kind reader will take our meaning.