

PHYSIOLOGICAL THERAPEUTICS; A NEW THEORY, by Thos. Poole, M.D., Lindsay, Ont., and dedicated to Dr. Workman, of Toronto.

The author in the work before us combats the generally received theory regarding vaso-motor nerve action, and presents a new theory based on the inter-relations between nerve force and muscular tissue throughout the body. His theory regarding the regulation of the vascular supply to different parts, is that the nerves distributed to the coats of the vessels are the agents concerned in producing dilatation, and the muscular tissue of the middle coats *per se* produces contraction by virtue of its own inherent power. He denies that there are two sets of nerves, one for the production of dilatation and the other for the production of contraction, as is alleged, according to the vaso-motor theory. In regard to the action of the heart he takes similar ground, and denies the existence of excito-motor and inhibitory nerve influence. In accordance with his theory the author proceeds to interpret the action of medicines and their influence in disease. He treats of the action of aconite, veratrum viride, opium, belladonna, digitalis, conium, hydrocyanic acid, bromide of potassium, calabar bean, mercury, alcohol, etc., etc., and shows how the individual action of each on the system can be readily explained on his theory. He takes aconite as a typical drug of the sedative class. It paralyzes nerve force, both sensitive and motor, but does not affect the brain. Arterial contraction is a prominent feature in aconite poisoning; the surface is pale, and cold, lips blue, pulse feeble, all bespeaking constriction of the calibre of the vessels. He alludes to the effect of opium in allaying after-pains and yet promoting the contraction of the uterus, in proof of his theory.

The author seems to have expected adverse criticism, and asks for his theory no favor beyond that to which on a fair and candid consideration it may be found to be justly entitled. While few will be found to agree with the writer in his premises, all must admire the firmness with which he upholds his views, and his courage in opposing accepted theories. The work is written in a very interesting style, and aside from the theory advanced, reflects no little credit upon the author.

The Diseases of Live Stock and their most efficient remedies by L. V. Teller, M.D. Philadelphia: D. G. Brinton. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

The author of this work is not a veterinary surgeon proper, but a medical practitioner, who has

given great attention to veterinary medicine and surgery. The work is free from technicalities, and will therefore be equally acceptable to the physician, farmer, and stock-owner. The treatment of disease is most fully discussed, and the entire work is of the most practical character.

CLINICAL LECTURES ON Diseases peculiar to Women, by Lombe Atthill, M.D., Dublin. Fifth Edition, revised and enlarged, with illustrations. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston. Toronto: Hart & Rawlinson.

This is a most excellent resumé of the Diseases of Women. It is thoroughly practical, and contains in small compass a large amount of valuable information available to every practitioner. We have no hesitation in recommending it as a useful guide.

NATURE AND PATHOLOGICAL HISTOLOGY OF PSORIASIS, by A. R. Robinson, M.B., L.R.C.P. & S. Edin. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

MEDICAL MISSIONS AT HOME AND ABROAD, by J. G. Kerr, M.D., 23 years a medical missionary in Canton, China. Sanfrancisco: A. L. Bancroft & Co.

FIFTY YEARS AGO; An Address to the graduating class, Medical College of the Pacific for 1878, by H. Gibbons, Sr., M.D. Sanfrancisco: A. L. Bancroft & Co.

A CASE OF CLEFT PALATE WITH ACQUIRED DEAF-MUTISM, STAPHYLOPHRY, RECOVERY, by Adolf Alt, M.D., Toronto. New York: Wm. Wood & Co.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY OF THE EYE by the same author.

SUSPENDED PUBLICATION.—The *Ohio Medical and Surgical Journal* has suspended. It was published to supply "a want long felt," but that want having been succeeded by another and more imperative one—paying subscribers—the journal ceases to exist. The editor requests the friends of the journal not to aggravate his grief by letters of condolence, or expressions of sympathy, but kindly leave him to suffer in silence.

The death of Jacob Bigelow, M.D., LL.D., the father of H. J. Bigelow, M.D., surgeon, of Boston is announced in our American exchanges, at the advanced age of 91 years.

Dr. W. N. Keefer, formerly of Galt, Ont., is at present with his regiment, (20th) Punjaub Infantry, in the Afghanistan war.