

all that is now known with reference to the theory and practice of these most important diseases, we cannot but consider that a copy of it should be in the possession of every surgeon who purposes to devote himself to the practice of these specialities, as they are rather erroneously called.

---

ART. LIV.—*Etudes sur la Monarchidie et la Cryptorchidie chez l'homme.*  
Par ERNEST GODARD, 1857.

*Recherches Tératologiques sur l'Appareil Seminal de l'homme.* Par ERNEST GODARD, 1860.

If we examine the most recent editions of the works on surgery, usually employed by students, we shall not find much information upon the subject of the above treatises, and yet it is of the greatest importance to society, that medical men should have clear and well-defined notions concerning them.

As the terms used by Mons. Godard indicate, his work treats of the congenital defects in the genital organs of man: in the one case, the malformation consists in the presence of only one testicle, and the individual is called a monarch, from the greek words which mean one testicle; in the other case, both testicles are retained within the abdomen, and not being visible, the individual is termed a cryptorch, from the greek words which indicate concealed or hidden testicle.

Now though instances of the first malformation are frequent, the subject has been much neglected till lately by British surgeons, and this may be attributed in a great measure to the fact that the malformation has not been considered of much importance, as it has been supposed until lately, that it had but little effect upon the procreative powers of the patient, and that it did not either directly or indirectly render him more liable to any particular disease, or tend in any way to his discomfort. Recent investigations have dispelled these illusions, and we have in our own pages presented to our readers, cases illustrative of this opinion, to which we shall allude more fully further on.

Notwithstanding the silence of surgical writers on this subject, the young practitioner may be called upon at the very commencement of his career to pronounce an opinion upon the following questions:—

1st. Is non-descent, or arrest in transitu, of one or both testicles a bar to matrimony?

2nd. Is non-descent of the testicle a bar to admission into the public service, particularly the military department?

3rd. Is non-descent of the testicle a reason for refusing the insurance of the life of the individual on the part of a company; and could it, having been concealed by the individual, and not stated in the certificate of his private medical adviser, be urged by the company as a ground for refusing to pay the amount of the policy in the event of his death. Again, has a company a right to demand an additional premium from an individual in whom this malformation exists?

Without following Mons. Godard very closely, we shall present our readers with some of the most important of his observations. This branch of inquiry