

*Ninth Annual Report of the Secretary of the State Board of Health, of the State of Michigan, for the fiscal year ending 30th Sept., 1881.*

The first part of this volume contains the Secretary's Report of the work of the Board, its sessions, special reports, communications, &c., and the second, forty-eight addresses, papers, and reports on sanitary subjects, the majority read at Sanitary Conventions held at Flint and Battle Creek; the balance being special contributions. A large portion of the sanitary field is covered by these communications; and the volume, therefore, contains a vast amount of instructive matter, and constitutes an excellent ensample for our own and other local boards advantageously to emulate.

*Popular Science Monthly.* New York: D. Appleton & Co.

The October number of this delightful and well-conducted journal for the enlightenment of the masses and the popularization of scientific subjects, has come to hand. The subjects treated of, which are more especially interesting to medical readers, are:—Massage, by Dr. Douglas Graham; Literature and Science, by Matthew Arnold; Moseley on Evolution, by Herbert Spencer; the Utility of Drunkenness, by Matthieu Williams; Delusions of Doubt, by M. B. Bill; Physiognomic Curiosities, by Felix Oswald, M.D.; The Formation of Saline Mineral Waters, by M. Dieulafoy; and a Sketch (with portrait) of Rudolph Virchow. We know of no periodical better suited for the delectation of a physician's family, or so much in place as on his table.

*Essentials of Vaccination:* A Compilation of Facts relative to Vaccine Inoculation, and its Influence in the Prevention of Smallpox. By W. A. HARDAWAY, M.D., St. Louis. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co., 1882.

Dr. Hardaway has done good service in the publication of this little *brochure* of some 140 pages. As is asserted in the preface, the work is a mere compilation, but the profession should feel greatly indebted for much valuable scattered information thus brought together and rendered easily accessible. Chapter i. treats briefly of the History of Vaccination; chap. ii.

of Variola in Animals; chap. iii. of the Nature of Vaccinia, in which the conclusion favoured seem to be a plausible one, in view of recent knowledge, that the vaccine matter is merely the contagium of smallpox modified by transmission through the cow. Chap. iv. deals with Vaccinia in the Human Subject; chap. v. with Abnormal Modifications and Complications of Vaccinia; chap. vi. with Re-vaccination; the view is expressed that, under circumstances of exposure, Vaccination ought to be repeated at any time; under ordinary circumstances, the author accepts Trousseau's advice of regarding five years as the limit of safety. Chap. vii. discusses the merits of the different kinds of Vaccine Virus; and, on the whole, the bovine source is preferred. Chap. viii. details the Methods of Obtaining and Storing Vaccine Virus. Chap. ix. deals with the Operation of Vaccination, and insists upon thoroughness and care, pointing out, with Mr. Marson, that it is as bad to die from smallpox in consequence of badly-performed Vaccination, as from any other ill-done operation. The final chapter constitutes an "Examination of the Objections to Vaccination," and, of course, satisfactorily disposes thereof.

*The Treatment of Diseases by the Hypodermatic Method.* By ROBERTS BARTHOLOW, A.M., M.D., LL.D., 4th Ed. Revised and Enlarged. Philadelphia: Lippincott & Co., 1882.

Like all of Dr. Bartholow's works this book is pleasingly written and well issued. It opens with a brief history of the subject, and a description of the method. Then follows a list of remedies administered by this method, and an account of the local and systemic effects of subcutaneous injections generally. A discussion of the preparation, dose, physiological action, accidents, and theory of each agent is then presented; the major part being occupied, of course by the alkaloids of opium and belladonna. But duboisia, strychnia, curara, physostigma, pilocarpine, chloral, caffeine, quinia, mercury, arsenic, &c., all receive due attention. We think there can be no doubt that the author must be mistaken in the assertion that the solution of apomorphia is spoiled when it turns green, which it does so rapidly. We had expected to find some allusion to the value of amyl nitrite locally administered in cramp or muscle spasm; and also to permanganate of potash in snake bite, but find none.