

It presupposes utter ignorance of anatomy and anatomical methods; it is based upon the domestic cat; its descriptive terms apply to all vertebrates, are technical and brief; its experimental and manipulative directions are clear and explicit. The introduction is taken up with explanatory and advisory notes, which will bear careful perusal. Terminology is rightly considered a matter of importance, and new terms are offered, which, if not pleasing to the eye, have the very positive advantage of brevity and perspicuity. The reasons adduced for the selection of the domestic cat as a basis for the work are rational and philanthropical, though the authors neglect to strengthen their position by advertng to this view of the subject. We hope the book will have a large and enthusiastic army of readers and students. There is plenty of material at hand.

The plates, wood cuts, and diagrams are good and clear as a rule, but their lettering is at times difficult to follow, and almost illegible, both by reason of the peculiar form of letter, and the irregular abbreviations employed.

Fortieth Annual Report of the State Lunatic Asylum, at Utica, for the year 1882.

It is not often that we are co-embarrassed by the length and the valuable contents of asylum reports. Some are regretfully short, whilst others cover more pages than the erudition or the sound discretion of the writers might have rendered advisable. On the present occasion, Dr. Gray who, it will be remembered, was shot through the cheeks and the back of the nose by a stray Guiteau sympathizer, only six months prior to the writing of this report, has given very satisfactory proof that no part of his thinking machinery lay in the path of the bullet. It is indeed probable that his mental courage has, by the fortuitous spur of the would-be assassin's pistol, been invigorated rather than debilitated, for on the various subjects treated of by him he speaks out with a

firmness of decision and an absence of reservation, which we regret to say are not very abundant in the annual bulletins of American asylum superintendents. We sincerely hope that he feels well assured of the firmness of his standing ground, for, in many of the United States, public officers must measure their words with great discretion, consequently their printed deliverances must be very cautiously spiced with just so much truth and plain facts as may be of pleasant digestion to the parties in power, whether in the State capitols or in their own vicinity. Everybody knows that when a dog has to be beaten the difficulty is not in finding the rod, but the fault; and, as far as we can learn or judge from the run of events in American lunatic asylums there is no country in christendom in which the virtues of fault-seeking, slander-nourishing, and general undermining, are so sedulously cultivated as in the Great Republic which glories in honouring the memory of the boy who preferred a whipping to the telling of a lie.

Dr. Gray's part of the report covers, (including that of the pathologist, and the usual array of tables which nobody reads, and from which very few are competent to educe useful practical conclusions,) some foreshore pages. We could almost wish that Dr. G. had less embarrassed his reviewers with rich material. To make selections from so ample a supply without the injustice of important omissions, is altogether impracticable, and our available space does not permit of extensive quotations.

On the subject of immature discharges, made either at the instance of importunate senseless friends, or under the command of conceited ignorant judges, (a custom too common in the United States) Dr. G. writes as follows:—

“The history and character of these cases show the importance of the provision of law requiring a guarantee of safe custody and maintenance. What will become of them remains for the future to tell. We