

culated and thoroughly sifted experience, as well as a full and exhaustive *resumé* of all that has been accomplished by other authorities. It is impossible to notice with minuteness any particular portion of the work, but we have been much pleased with the description of *central galvanization*, a method of application which the authors claim they have introduced to the profession, and systematized since the publication of the first edition. This method of application, they state, has many practical advantages over localized galvanization of the nerve centres, and in many cases over general faradization. The chapters on diseases of the skin are also of much clinical interest. Some remarkable cures are recorded as the results of this new method, (central galvanization) of the application of electricity, in chronic eczema and prurigo. Some interesting experiments in cases of Whooping Cough are also recorded. Those who purchased the first edition, must now discard it for the new one. We promise them full satisfaction; they got it from the old edition, they will get still more from the new.

*Spermatorrhœa, its Causes, Symptoms and Treatment.* By ROBERT BARTHOLOW, A.M., M.D., Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the Medical College of Ohio. New York, William Wood & Co., 1879. Montreal, J. M. O'Loughlin.

The basis of this little work, of some one hundred and twenty-five pages, was a clinical lecture originally published a few years ago, in the *Cincinnati Journal of Medicine*; it was afterwards enlarged upon and issued as a monograph, and was most acceptably received by the profession of the United States. It passed rapidly through several editions, the present one being the fourth. This of itself speaks much for its filling a want in this special department of medical literature. It is unquestionably a fact that, of all diseases, Spermatorrhœa is the one from which ignorant quacks reap the richest harvest. To a certain extent, the profession has itself to blame for this, for it must be admitted that the disease is one to which they have not given the attention which it deserves. A kind of fastidiousness, perhaps, on the part both of the patient and the physician causes the treatment of this malady to be generally avoided in private practice. Not being able to get intelligent ad-

vice, and, what is equally essential, intelligent sympathy, the sufferer gravitates, perhaps not unnaturally, into the hands of these advertising specialists whose books are scattered broadcast over the land. If the profession were true to themselves this would not be, but to be thus true they should be prepared to treat the disease on scientific principles. The literature of the subject is not voluminous. We therefore look upon Dr. Bartholow's work as one capable of accomplishing much good. It not only treats the subject from a moral and humane standpoint, but it gives the very latest views of its pathology. The treatment is also up to date. We have, however, a suggestion or two to make. If future editions are required, and we are sure they will be, we would, in the first place, suggest that it would be better not to re-publish the preface to each edition; and secondly, to the publisher, we would suggest the advisability of putting the title of the book on the back. So many little volumes are now published in this way that once they reach the shelf of the bookcase it becomes a task of both time and trouble to unearth a special volume when wanted. In our experience, this is a matter of more moment than perhaps may at first sight appear. The volume is produced in really beautiful style.

*A Clinical History of the Medical and Surgical Diseases of Women.* By ROBERT BARNES, M.D., Censor of the Royal College of Physicians, London, Obstetric Physician and Lecturer on Obstetrics and Diseases of Women to St. George's Hospital. Second American from the second and revised London edition, with one hundred and eighty-one illustrations. Philadelphia, Henry Lea. Montreal, Dawson Brothers.

The fame of Robert Barnes as an authority upon diseases peculiar to the female sex is world-wide. On this Continent his name has not only been familiar to all who are engaged in the practice of medicine, but his work has for years been recognised as a standard authority. Its hold upon the profession of the United States and Canada has, however, been greatly increased by the personal recollection of him which hundreds still have who had the pleasure of seeing his genial English face, and hearing his pleasant voice at the International Medical Congress at Philadelphia, in September, 1876.