

in Germany, Austria, Hungary and Switzerland. Of these cases, the average mortality percentage of the four years preceding the use of antitoxin (1890-94) was 41.4, while the average mortality percentage for the four years succeeding the use of antitoxin ('94-'98) was 16.5. From his series of comparisons the author draws the striking conclusion that of 40 ordinary cases of diphtheria which would die under other modes of treatment, 25 are surely saved by antitoxin. In view of these facts, he argues that it is impossible to hold guiltless the physician who fails to employ this powerful weapon in combating so dangerous a disease.

In the volume devoted to Surgery, we find that General Surgery is from the pen of Drs. W. W. Keen and J. Chalmers DaCosta; Obstetrics that of Drs. B. C. Hirst and W. A. Newman Dorland; Gynecology, Drs. J. Montgomery Baldy and Dorland; Orthopedic Surgery, Drs. V. P. Gibney and J. H. Waternan; Ophthalmology, Drs. H. F. Hansell and W. Reber; Otology, Dr. C. H. Burnett; Diseases of the Nose and Larynx, Drs. E. Fletcher Ingals and H. G. Ohls; and the subject of Anatomy, Dr. C. A. Hamann, of Cleveland, O. W. A. R.

*Encyclopedia Medica.* Under the general editorship of CHALMERS WATSON, M.B., M.R.C.P.E. Vol. IV., Foot to Hernia. Edinburgh: William Green & Sons. 1900.

This volume is quite up to the standard of the three preceding ones which have already been noticed. Much care has been taken by the writers of the various articles to bring them up to a high standard, and although they are necessarily condensed they are clear and safe. Of the arrangement of the matter we have to observe again that it would apparently have been much more convenient if all the articles bearing on one organ had been placed together in one volume and the cross references given in alphabetical order. The treatment of heart disease, for example, seems quite incomplete without the so-called Schott methods being discussed.

Of the longer articles in this volume those on the heart are specially worthy of mention. It is highly commendable that diseases of the myocardium are given equal prominence with those of the endocardium, and not, as is usually the case, treated of in a small sub-section. It is too often lost sight of that in the great majority of cases of heart disease the symptoms are due to myocardial rather than to endocardial disease, yet how often it is that murmurs receive sole consideration. Kelownack writes the pathological and Graham Steele the clinical section of this part.

H. D. Rolleston writes an excellent article on Hematemesis. It seems an error, however, to recommend such compounds as *Ruspini's styptic*, the composition of which is not generally known.

The article on the gall-bladder and bile-ducts by Mayo Robsen and Farquhar Macrae is very good, as is also that on gout, by the editor.

In the excellent article on Hemoptysis, by R. Murray Leslie, one could wish that the use of ergot were more strongly condemned. The only beneficial effect it can have is in gratifying the patient through his belief that a potent remedy is being used. The beneficial effects of astringents in general are rightly called in question; it is doubtful if they have any influence on the bleeding. The use of morphine hypodermically is strongly recommended, it is the most potent remedy at our disposal.

Nothing is said of calcium chloride; it should be of as much use in this as in other hemorrhages. Nor is there any reference to collapsing the bleeding lung by the introduction of nitrogen gas or air into the pleural cavity.

Among other valuable contributions may be mentioned those on Fractures, by D'Arcy Power; Gastro-Intestinal Disorders of Infancy, by G. F. Still; Glandular Fever, by Dawson Williams; Glaucoma, by Priestley Smith; Glycosuria, by R. T. Williamson; Hemoglobinuria, by A. E. Garrod; Hay Fever, by Greville MacDonald; Headache, by James Ritchie, and Hemiplegia, by James Taylor.

It is to be regretted that the several articles are unsigned, especially as they are written in the first person. The book is creditable to the publishers, being well printed on heavy paper.

A. M'P.