

peutics generally and special electro-therapeutics. The first three of these parts are compressed into less than one half the entire volume, the whole of the remaining portion being devoted to special electro-therapeutics. Under this head we are introduced to a great variety of diseases, almost all, of course, of the nervous system, either organic or functional, and the various modes by which they have been successfully treated by electricity are explained and illustrated. The chief affections thus treated of are the following: *paralysis*—central, spinal, peripheral, hysterical, infantile, facial, &c., besides allied diseases, such as progressive locomotor ataxy and progressive muscular atrophy; next, *neuralgia* in all its varieties, facial, cervicobrachial, sciatic, &c.; next *convulsive diseases*, under which heading we have chorea, Scrivener's palsy, epilepsy, tetanus, torticollis, &c.; and, lastly, we have two chapters on the surgical application of electricity by means of electrolysis and by galvanocausty.

Whilst agreeing generally with the statements made there are certainly a few expressions from which we must beg to dissent. "It is the general opinion of dermatologists now-a-days," it is said, "that skin diseases are simply neuroses. Newman and Bärensprung and others unite in this conclusion. Numerous experiments substantiate the truth of this assertion and have proved that nearly all skin diseases are amenable to electricity." Against this we think there is still a general feeling that many affections of the derma are produced by a process of inflammation, and many others by a condition of depraved nutrition, and not merely by such a disturbance in the normal state of the nerves of the part as would permit of their being called neuroses. No one will deny that such diseases as urticaria and Herpes zoster are of nervous origin, but we find the assertion of Dr. Hamilton too general and sweeping.

In these troublesome functional disorders, chorea, epilepsy, paralysis agitans, &c., our author has nothing encouraging to say, electricity having proved only of doubtful value in a very few cases.