

ands of educated gentlemen should be reduced to penury through overcrowded competition.

### BOOK NOTICES.

**DISORDERED DIGESTION AND DYSPEPSIA.** By Frank Woodbury, A.M., M.D., Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia; Honorary Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia, etc., etc., 12 mo. paper. (Physician's Leisure Library Series). Geo. S. Davis, publisher, Detroit, Mich., 1889. Price—Paper, 25 cents; cloth, 50 cents.

Our knowledge of the chemistry of the digestive process has been materially advanced in the last few years, and this little work comprising Digestion and its disorders, symptoms and forms of Dyspepsia, treatment of Dyspepsia and dietetic hints for Dyspeptics will prove of interest and value to any reader.

**ON THE TREATMENT OF THE MORPHINE HABIT.** By Dr. Albrecht Erlenmeyer. Translated from the German. Detroit, Mich.: Geo. S. Davis. 1889.

The difficulty of properly treating the morphine habit has led to the devising of many methods, the introduction of many so-called antidotes, and the founding of many institutions. Probably no author is better prepared to advise on the subject than is Prof. Erlenmeyer. The little work under consideration being one of the Leisure Library series, is but a single chapter of the complete work of its author, which appeared in 1883, a second edition being required in 1887.

The author prefers the "rapid" method of removing the drug from the patient, as contradistinguished from the "sudden" and the "gradual." The greater part of the treatment, and the more important part, is that of the period of convalescence. The entire course, according to his method, requires six weeks.

The translator, Dr. E. P. Hurd, of Newburyport, Mass., tells us that "The aim of this little volume, in fact, is to give a plain, concise, and practical presentation of the therapy of morphinism, according to Erlenmeyer's teachings." A chapter is included which gives his method of treating the cocaine habit.

**SYNOPSIS OF HUMAN ANATOMY, BEING A COMPLETE COMPEND OF ANATOMY,** including the anatomy of the viscera and numerous tables. By James K. Young, M.D., Instructor in Orthopædic Surgery and Assistant Demonstrator of Surgery in the University of Pennsylvania; Attending Orthopædic Surgeon Out-patient Department University Hospital; Fellow of the College of Physicians, etc., etc. Philadelphia and London: F. A. Davis, Publisher 1889.

This book belongs to the Physicians' and Students' Ready Reference Series, and its object is to furnish a concise though complete synopsis of human anatomy for the use of students of medicine and others. It is built upon Gray's Anatomy as a standard, but many other authors, as Leidy, Quain, Allen, Holden and Klein, are liberally consulted; while on special subjects Lusk, Spiegelberg, Savage, Schröder, Budin, Treve's "Surgical Applied Anatomy" and the "American System of Dentistry," are freely used. Particular regard has

been paid to the sections on the viscera, special senses, vascular system, and surgical anatomy. The aim throughout has been to make it thoroughly complete and accurate, at the same time readily accessible for reference or study. The author has succeeded admirably in his purpose. Attention should be directed to an annexed table of the cranial nerves, giving in convenient form their name, superficial origin, deep origin, exit, division, distribution, termination and function. This will be a valuable aid in acquiring an accurate and definite knowledge of this difficult portion of a difficult study.

**INEBRIETY, ITS ETIOLOGY, PATHOLOGY, TREATMENT AND JURISPRUDENCE.** By Norman Kerr, M.D., F.L.S., Fellow of the Medical Society of London; President, Society for the Study of Inebriety, Chairman, British Medical Association Inebriates' Legislative Committee; Consulting Physician, Dalrymple Home for the treatment of Inebriates; Corresponding member Medico-Legal Society of New York; corresponding Secretary American Association for the Cure of Inebriates. Second edition. London: H. K. Lewis, 136 Gower street, W. C., 1889.

It will at once be apparent from the title that Dr. Kerr in this production takes the ground that inebriety is a *disease*. Not that an intemperate use of alcoholics has the effect to produce a congested stomach, a nutmeg liver, degenerated kidneys, fatty heart, shrunken brain, for all these results no pathologist will deny but that inebriety is, *per se*, a departure from health in the form of some obscure condition of the nervous system, which craves for the temporary relief afforded by stimulants or narcotics,—a functional neurotic disease, allied to insanity, and often seen in families prone to neuralgia, hysteria, chorea, "hay fever," sick headache, epilepsy, neurasthenia and other similar ailments. The condition he terms *narcomania*. Assuming at the beginning, then, that inebriety is a disease, amenable to the laws of prevention and cure, he proceeds with a great deal of logic to prove the correctness of his assumption, and carries his subject as he would do in treating of any other disease, through the various departments of etiology, pathology, treatment, etc., not omitting to deal with its most important characteristic, the medico-legal aspect. Whether or not Dr. Kerr's position is the correct one, is too large to be discussed here. It may be regarded at the present time as *sub judice*. But this work has done, and is doing, much to awaken the medical mind in this direction. No more momentous question engages the minds of every nation to-day than the one of inebriety. It answers for crimes, wretched homes, and miseries innumerable. Every effort so far to stay its progress, or put it under control has proven utterly futile. It may be that we have always been wrong, and that Dr. Kerr is right. If the medical world will take hold of the matter and successfully cope with it, the greatest boon will be bestowed upon humanity everywhere. We hope every physician will read this work and then act.

### PERSONAL.

Dr. Bache McE. Emmett and Dr. Horace T. Hanks have been appointed surgeons to the Woman's Hospital, New York, vice Dr. Jas. B. Hunter, deceased, and Dr. C. C. Lee, resigned.