

Those who have never been so situated as to be able to see many patients of this class would be surprised to learn what a large proportion of children are mentally unfitted to hold their own with their fellows of a similar age; and it is for a physician a large step in gaining a liberal education to spend a few days in a good school devoted to the education of the feeble-minded. Notwithstanding our boasted educational advancement, there are few civilized countries where so little has been done for these unfortunates as in Canada.

Dr. Barr's book is one of the very best upon a subject upon which much has been written in recent years. It would greatly enlarge the vision of many men who are in the practice of medicine and would enable them to give advice which would be highly beneficial, both to the patient and to the family who are seeking guidance in reference to the future of those who are mentally below a normal standard.

B. E. M.

*Clinical Treatises on the Pathology and Therapy of Disorders of Metabolism and Nutrition.* By PROF. DR. CARL VON NOORDEN, Physician to the City Hospital, Frankfort, A.M. Authorized American edition. Translated under the direction of Boardman Reed, M.D., Professor of Diseases of the Gastro-intestinal Tract, Hygiene and Climatology, Department of Medicine, Temple College; Physician to the Samaritan Hospital, Philadelphia, etc. Part V., Concerning the Effects of Saline Waters (Kissengen, Homburg) on Metabolism. By Prof. Carl von Noorden, Frankfort, and Dr. Carl Dapper, Bad Kissengen New York: E. B. Treat & Co. 1904.

This treatise by Drs. von Noorden and Dapper deals with the effects of the mineral waters of Kissengen and Homburg on metabolism. In Ragoeksy water (Kissengen) and in Elizabethquelle water (Homburg) the principal ingredient is chloride of sodium. The investigations were made principally on sick people. The following results were noted: (1) In gastric catarrh an active and permanent increase in the production of hydrochloric acid; (2) in nervous dyspepsia a decrease of hydrochloric acid; (3) it was found unnecessary to exclude fats, raw fruit, solids and vinegar from the diet; (4) the use of the saline water did not interfere with the absorption of the fats; (5) the use of the water did not increase the metabolism of the proteids; (6) the excretion of uric acid was slightly increased when dilute saline mineral waters were taken. The clinical methods adopted by the observers enabled them to pronounce decidedly on the effects of these saline waters on sick people.

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