

In support of the first—and also of the last—of these propositions the author cites a great variety of case-reports, culled from a very extensive literature illustrating many morbid conditions in which some or other portion of the nervous system was at fault, and in which pulmonary disease developed.

This review of the literature is most interesting, and demonstrates much diligence and persistence on the part of the author, but that the association of the pulmonary condition with the nervous fault was in any case more than coincidental does not appear to the reviewer to be proved. Even the large number of cases referred to is after all but a drop in the bucket of the total number of cases of tubercular disease which develop without preceding implication of the nervous system. And the reasoning of the author, in the application of his theory to pulmonary diseases, might with equal force and equal fairness be applied to the diseases of any other system of the body.

Dr. Mays supports his second proposition by reasoning which is quite similar to that employed in support of his first, and which, in the opinion of the reviewer, is equally fallacious. While unable to deny that infection is possible, he considers this to be a very infrequent method of causation, and quotes a number of authorities who have been unable to assure themselves that tuberculosis is commonly transmitted by infection. A little search of recent literature would have supplied him with a much more formidable array of authorities who give strong evidence in favour of the opinion that tuberculosis, and especially pulmonary tuberculosis, is an extremely infectious disease, and that it is ordinarily spread by infection. So much good promises to follow the education of the public to this view of tuberculosis that any teaching to the contrary, we cannot but feel, is dangerous and to be deplored.

While, however, we cannot agree with Dr. Mays in the theory upon which he bases his work, we are yet able to find much in his book which is of interest and much which is valuable. His chapters on treatment are good and well worthy of careful perusal. Except for a curious transposition of pages 241 and 247, the book is well printed, and the binding is neat and substantial.

STRINGTOWN ON THE PYKE, by John Uri Lloyd. Published by W. J. Gage & Co., Limited, Ontario.

This is a tale of Southern life, simply and yet effectively told by one of our own profession who must eventually attain to a high rank among litterateurs. The scene is laid in Kentucky, and prominent among the *dramatis personae* is an old negro slave, whose unflinching devotion to the trust imposed upon him, coupled with his implicit faith in the signs and spells which play so large a part in negro superstition, makes him a very interesting character. The story gives a capital idea of life in the South, and might almost be spoken of as a psychological study of the darkey. There is enough of the folk lore of this happy and rather irresponsible child of nature to add a special charm to the work, and as illustrative of the superstition which controls nearly every action of the negro, the book is almost unique. Enough tragedy is brought into the tale to keep the interest fixed and give it a flavour worthy of Kentucky tradition.