

This excellent treatise consists of two parts. The first is devoted to the management of infancy and children, and the second to the diseases of these same stages in life. The first comprises five chapters which are taken up with preliminary observations; management of birth; food; cleanliness; air and exercise. It extends over 70 pages. The remainder of the volume is occupied with the second part which is divided into eight sections, upon diseases of the cerebrospinal system; of the respiratory system; of the heart; of the digestive system; of the skin; of eruptive fevers; of fevers; and of infantile syphilis. Under these, except the last, subdivisions occur, in which are described the various species of diseases peculiar to each. The arrangement thus effected is both, simple and complete; and affords a favorable token of the attention displayed in the subsequent descriptions. These, upon examination, bear witness to the possession by the author, of an unusual share of erudition, he has, moreover, derived his knowledge from, we should say, every available source; and consequently has conducted his labours through a very extended series of monographs and periodicals the names of which are given in an appendix that takes up 9 pages of fine print. We can, therefore, readily believe the confession made in the preface, that much of the work was done "at hours which are usually devoted to rest." The profession, however, have been benefitted by this self-sacrifice, and the writer has for his solace the pleasing reflection that he has presented them with a judiciously assorted exponent of the present literature upon the subjects of which he treats. But there are even yet higher claims which his work possesses to notice. For there are portions in the ordinary accounts of such matters, as contained in former productions, that have not been amplified to an extent commensurate with their importance; to them the author has devoted special attention and gone far to supply the void thus offered. As an example, we may instance the sequelæ of diseases or the secondary disorders that often arise out of primary ones in their course or towards their termination. They have the stronger claim on our appreciation, because, as is justly observed, "they complicate and often confuse the symptoms of the primary affection, always seriously increase its danger, and often render it hopeless of cure. Their early detection, or what is far better, their anticipation and prevention, forms a very important part of the physicians duty; and I have endeavored as far as I could to facilitate this object by carefully noticing both the complications, to which each disease is liable, and the primary disorders to which it may become secondary." Several other points of originality might be exhibited, were it necessary, but it may suffice to observe that throughout the