

Diathesis), Prolonged Period of Immunity (Non-Menacing Character of Diathesis), Sufficient Specific Treatment, The use of Sulphur Waters. Of these it need only be said that each is treated with the universally acknowledged originality and ability of the author. The opinion is strongly stated that the simple fact of a man's once having had syphilis is not necessarily a bar to marriage; but the right to marry is hedged about with so many conditions of such rigour and exactness that few will, we believe, be found amongst the unfortunate in this country to comply therewith. The view that the offspring of syphilitic parents, even if not syphilitic, may present a debilitated constitution as a modified expression of the diathesis is ably maintained, and attention is directed to the occurrence, not sufficiently recognised, of sudden death in infants without apparent cause as a striking result of the intoxication. Meningitis, too, is mentioned as a common consequence. Before sanctioning the marriage of a syphilitic subject, our author exacts of him a delay of a "minimum period of three or four years devoted to a most careful treatment;" and although Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, whose authority as a syphilologist the world acknowledges, has expressed the opinion in his preface to Lingard's English Translation of this very work, that in many cases this rule might with advantage be relaxed, yet we cannot but feel that in this respect our author pursues the safest course, and surely in this matter the safest course is best. Cerebral syphilis, or any tendency to an intracranial manifestation is regarded as an express interdiction of marriage. The test of the presence of syphilis by sulphur baths, and their reputed revealing action is characterized as a legend to be abandoned. The after-marriage aspects of syphilis are then considered from the point of view of Husband, Wife, and Child; and the "Dangers to Society" through nurses and nurslings are not omitted; after which fifty-six pages of notes and illustrative cases complete a volume of rare excellence and pressing interest to all classes of society. The translation, although many sentences are strangely Gallicised, is on the whole well rendered, and if our memory serves, presents a literal and faithful reproduction of the eloquent *leçons* of the learned Professor of Dermatology of the Paris Faculty, and distinguished Surgeon of the Hôpital St. Louis.

*Lectures on Diseases of the Nervous System, Especially in Women.* By S. WEIR MITCHELL, M.D., with five plates. Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea's Son & Co. 1881.

Under this title, Dr. Mitchell publishes a series of thirteen most interesting and instructive lectures. The subjects treated of are: The Paralysis of Hysteria, Hysterical Motor Ataxia, Hysterical Paresis, The Mimicry of Diseases, Unusual Forms of Spasmodic Affections in Women, Tremor and Chronic Spasms, Chorea of Childhood, Habit Chorea, Disorders of Sleep in Nervous Persons, Vaso-Motor and Respiratory Disorders in the Nervous and Hysterical, Hysterical Aphonia, Hysterical Gastro-Intestinal Disorders, and lastly the treatment of Nervous Exhaustion and Hysteria by Seclusion, Rest, Massage, Electricity and Full Feeding. All the chapters contain many practically profitable suggestions and directions, and are illustrated by the citation of curious and interesting cases which will doubtless help to elucidate many perplexing and obscure phenomena occurring in the future experience of others. The vernal seasonal occurrence of chorea, its urban predilections and more frequent occurrence in the white race, are well brought out and the five plates are intended to illustrate the first of these topics. The storm area element in chorea appears to be analogous to that earlier observed by the author in neuralgia. The treatment of Hysterical Disorders by the author's plan as first set forth in his "Fat and Blood, and How to Make Them" has proved equally successful in the hands of Mary Putnam Jacobi, and other careful and accurate observers, and we can only recommend it to our readers' notice in the hope that they may thereby secure as good results in the management of these really distressing maladies. It would have been a matter of much interest to have had an account of our author's experience of hysterical temperatures. "The elements out of which these disorders arise are deeply human and exist in all of us in varying amount, while many of the determining and conditioning factors come from accidental, or, at least, external agencies." Their manifestations are accordingly common—perhaps commoner than we recognise or suppose; and it behooves us, therefore, diligently to acquire what insight we can into their nature, causes, cure and prevention. We assure our readers that this last little book of Dr. Mitchell's offers to all a helpful hand in that direction.