

S. B. François de Chaumont, M.D., F. R.S. Sixth edition with an appendix, giving the American practice in matters relating to Hygiene, prepared by and under the supervision of Frederick N. Owen, Civil and Sanitary Engineer. Vol. II. New York: Wm. Wood & Co., 1883.

This is the November number of Woods Library. Beginning with the continuation of Book I. of Parkes' Hygiene, on Habitations, the subject matter is that of the original work. At page 391 the American Appendix is reached. It was with considerable interest, and some degree of curiosity that we turned to this portion of the work. And as we turn over the pages the conviction grows stronger that the American practice in matters relating to Hygiene, does not differ in any marked degree, or in any essential points from the practice of other nations and peoples similarly situated. An introduction by Mr. Owen, gives a short account of the rise and progress of Sanitary matters in the United States, and then follows a lengthy paper on Water, by Elwyn Waller, of New York; a paper by N. L. Britton, Ph.D., on American Soils; Climatology by J. G. Richardson, M.D.; Ventilation and Warming by D. F. Lincoln, M.D.; Removal of House Waste by Edward S. Philbrick, M.A., S.C.E.; Food Adulteration by E. G. Love, Ph.D.; Disinfection and Deodorization and Vital Statistics by Roger S. Tracy, M.D., and the whole concludes with some Hints to Sanitary Inspectors by Mr. Owen.

The Essays of the American Supplement are all excellent articles, some of them short but to the point.

The Field of Disease: a Book of Preventive Medicine, by Benjamin Ward Richardson, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., 1884. Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea's Son & Co.

The American publishers deserve commendation for the efficient manner in which they have reproduced Dr. Richardson's work and issued it to the American Profession. Let us hope that by their avowed purpose of laying it before the Profession, they do not intend to exclude it from the more numerous class of readers to whose especial needs the author has catered in so eminent a manner. That the subject matter is put clearly, forcibly, and pleasantly, goes without saying. It is a philosophical classifica-

tion of Diseases, of their causes and origins, and of their preventions. The science of Preventive Medicine is the science of the medicine of the future. No physician can even now afford to be ignorant of the causes of disease so far as they are known, and the deeper the knowledge of the cause the more liability there is of acquiring the knowledge of the best means of preventing the operation of the malific cause.

The work is divided into three books, with a short introduction to each, upon Diseases, Acquired Diseases, and a Practical Summary of the Origin, Causes, and Preventions of Diseases.

Our Legislators at Toronto and at Ottawa who have in contemplation schemes affecting the public health of Canada would doubtless derive great benefit by carefully perusing pages 704 to 711 of this work. Not that they will receive new ideas, but rather that their conception of the duties and requirements of health officers may be enlarged and strengthened—that their belief in the benefits to accrue to the people from the establishment of health boards and sanitary bureaus may be confirmed, and that they may be able to give a reasonable account of the faith that is in them.

Let the book go to the public. Let the public read it, for it is eminently readable, and it will follow that the questions with which they will inevitably ply their physician will for very shame compel him to study those matters more deeply in order to give a satisfactory reply to his intelligent and anxious questioners.

Personal.

DR. BURNS has returned from Florida.

DR. WINSTANLEY is still in Southern California.

DR. HOLMES has left Toronto to resume practice in Goderich.

MR. CHRISTOPHER HEATH is preparing a Surgical Dictionary.

DR. S. GRAFTEN (Toronto, '83), has returned from England.

DRS. Osler, and Howard, jr., of Montreal, sailed for Germany last week.

DR. ISAAC BAYLEY BALFOUR has been appointed Professor of Botany at Oxford.