

PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

Internal Pathology is divided into special and general. General Pathology will be dealt with by Dr. Mills. Special Pathology consists of items regarding individual diseases, facts, etc. An important branch of this is special therapeutics—to improve or to retard. Prophylaxis is preventative medicine, and is a branch really of sanitary medicine.

DEFINITION OF DISEASE.—It is an abnormal condition of structure or function, or generally both, of a part or the whole of the body, including all changes, as color, form, consistence, every unusual distribution of the fluids or alteration in their state, any altered movement, any mal-operations of the organs of the body, etc. No new powers operate in disease, but only powers natural to the body operate, so disease is a disturbance of some function and an effort of nature to restore the equilibrium. In describing objects, names are necessary, hence classification.

CLASSIFICATION.—There is no satisfactory and perfect classification, as knowledge is not perfect. Here is London 1885 classification based on the causation of disease. Diseases are divided into general or local: *General* diseases are those of the whole body, or else when disease is distributed in several parts at once. *Local* diseases are of individual parts.

GENERAL DISEASES are subdivided into 4 classes, according to cause: (A) Morbid poisons, as febrile; (B) diseases depending on external agents other than morbid poisons; (C) developmental diseases; (D) unclassifiable. These 4 again become subdivided. (A) this is the great zymotic class, and is divided into 5 sub-groups: 1. Exanthematic or allied groups (eruptions), including acute specific fevers, variola, vaccina, varicella, morbilli, scarlatina, dengue, plague, typhus, typhoid; all have a more or less characteristic eruption on the skin. Closely attending or relapsing fever, continued fever, febricula, cerebro-spinal fever, yellow fever, Asiatic fever. Another group of Exanthems are what are called mucous fevers (?), as epidemic diarrhoea, dysentery, diphtheria, mumps, influenza, whooping cough and simple cholera. 2. Malarial fevers, as ague. 3. Septic diseases—septicæmia, phagadæna, pyæmia, hospital gangrene, erysipelas. 4. Venereal diseases—syphilis, gonorrhœa. 5. Febrile diseases communicable from animals—glanders, farcy, anthrax and hydrophobia equina. (B) Diseases dependent on external agents other than morbid poisons, subdivided into 4 groups: 4 Diseases due to animal and vegetable parasites, as tinea, worms. 2. Poisons of animals or of vegetables, inorganic poisons, lead, arsenic, etc. 3. Diseases of injury, traumatic, climatic, etc. 4. Diseases produced by errors of diet, as scurvy, alcoholism, starvation, ergotism. (C) Immaturity (developmental dis-