

III. "The Relation and Hereditary Tendency between Inebriety and Epilepsy."

IV. "The Causes of Premature Mental Decay and Nervous Exhaustion, induced by Inebriety, and their Treatment."

V. "The Pathological and Psychological Action of Opium, and its effects upon the Human Race."

In chap. V., "On Treatment," the author speaks of constant and induced currents of electricity as *the* remedy in nerve exhaustion and mental decay. Phosphorus, cod-liver oil, strychnine, quinine, Zinc phosphide, Indian hemp, monobromide of camphor, prolonged warm baths, &c., are the remedies recommended to meet the various symptoms.

Reviews of the following publications will appear next month:—

The Science and Practice of Surgery, including special chapters by different authors, with 969 illustrations on wood, mostly new and original. By Frederick James Gant, F.R.C.S. Second edition, in two volumes, pp. 1787. Revised and re-written, and much enlarged throughout. London: Ballière, Tindal & Cox; Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston; Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

Brain. A quarterly journal of neurology. Edited by J. C. Bucknill, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., J. Critchton-Browne, M.D., F.R.S.E., D. Ferrier, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., and J. Hughlings Jackson, M.D., F.R.C.P. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. July, 1878. Part II., price \$1.25; yearly subscription, \$4.00. Willing & Williamson.

Habitual Drunkenness and Insane Drunkards. Dr. Bucknill, F.R.S. London: Macmillan & Co., 1878. Toronto: Willing & Williamson. Price \$1.00.

Practical Surgery, including Surgical Dressings, Bandaging, Ligations, and Amputations. By J. EWING MEARS, M.D. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston.

The Cell Doctrine; its History and Present State. By JAMES TYSON, M.D. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston.

Diseases of the Bladder and Urethra in Women.

By A. J. C. SKENE, M.D. New York: Wood & Co.; Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

A book of this kind has been very much needed by the profession, and the author's well-known position as a gynecologist eminently fits him for the task of its production.

Diseases of this class occur to the practitioner every day, and we have long felt the want of some safe guide to their diagnosis and treatment. Such we have found in Dr. Skene's book, which is plain, practical, and short.

We have been much pleased with the lecture on functional diseases of the bladder, wherein he speaks of that very troublesome affection, nocturnal incontinence of urine in children and adults, simply because he has the courage to say that some cases will not be cured by any treatment whatever. He divides these cases into two classes or types. First, the anæsthetic; second, the hyperæsthetic, or irritable bladder. Each may exist alone or both at the same time. In the first the retaining power of the sphincter is defective, and the fault is probably in the vesical nerves. In the second there is an irritable condition of the bladder which renders its expelling power greater than that of retention.

In some cases he says the cure is easily effected; in others it cures itself at or just after puberty; but in a few no medical or other means afford any relief. The treatment is not always satisfactory. In anæsthesia, local or general, stimulate. In hyperæsthesia, allay irritability. In some cases syr. ferri iodid has effected a cure in a few days by its action on the blood and general system. In some cases belladonna will act satisfactorily, but in others it will fail. Sometimes a combination of belladonna and chloral hydrat. or narcotics and tinct. ferri chlorid, will succeed. Oil of sandalwood has done well in some cases. While narcotics are hurtful in the anæsthetic cases, such remedies as strychnia, quinine, and iron may prove useful. He advises the heartiest meal to be taken in the middle of the day, and but little towards evening, plain, unseasoned food, without tea or coffee, and early hours of retiring. He insists that children who are subject