

sanity. A very interesting resume of the medical points in the case was read by Dr. Hammond, at the last meeting of the Medico Legal Society, of this city, and will be published in the July number of the *Psychological Journal*. It is announced on the notices just issued for the next meeting, that Dr. O'Dea will review the whole question of the plea of insanity in criminal cases next Thursday evening.

J. J.

Reviews and Notices of Books.

THE CELL DOCTRINE : ITS HISTORY AND PRESENT STATE, FOR THE USE OF STUDENTS IN MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY—BY DR. TYSON, PHILADELPHIA, LINDSAY AND BLAKISTON.

Of making many books there is no end, and very little matter is required to enable some men to make them. We have heard it said that every great man should write a book, and some people think this alone gives a claim to greatness.

Tyson's cell doctrine is a very handsome little volume, got up in the publisher's best style, and contains 150 pages. Of these, about 12 pages are made up of blank leaves, title page, dedication and preface, 32 of bibliography, and 89½ are occupied with an account of histological opinions from the times of Aristotle and Galen down to Huxley and Beale, while in the remaining 10½ pages the author sets forth his own views with considerable precision and clearness.

There must be something very captivating about the cell doctrine, as most writers and lecturers on the subject, appear to be completely carried away by it; but after a careful perusal of the work before us, we think it is a good deal like a definition we have heard of metaphysics: "One man trying to explain to another something he does not understand himself."

We are glad to see that the author sustains the opinion now held by many European and American pathologists with reference to the passage of the white blood corpuscles through the walls of the capillaries, and their development into pus corpuscles. He says, "All physical difficulties in the way of the passage of white blood corpuscles through the walls of capillaries are removed, when we remember that the smallest living particles by the rapid growth of which white blood discs or pus corpuscles are speedily produced, do not exceed the 1-100,000 of an inch in diameter!! and that according to the observations of Beale, we are not compelled to restrict the origin of these cells to points outside the vessels."

The author says "he has sought to obtain a continuous history of the *evolution* of the 'cell doctrine' up to its present state," and we think he has succeeded very well in his attempt, but we don't think his students will have a much more clear or positive conception of the *cell doctrine* after they have finished the book than they had when they began it.

The book is published without index or contents, but we suspect that is a ruse to ensure its being read through.

ARCHIVES OF OPHTHALMOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—

Edited and printed, simultaneously in English and German. By Prof. H. KNAFF, M.D., in New York, and Prof. S. MOOS, M.D., in Heidelberg. Vol I., No. 1. New York, Wm. Wood & Co.

This is a very handsome journal, of about 360 pages, illustrated with numerous engravings and chromolithographs, to be issued half yearly, two numbers to form a volume, the price being seven dollars a year.

The object of the periodical (say the editors) is, not only to diffuse knowledge among the medical profession, but to act as a stimulus for scientific investigation," and we are bound to say after a careful perusal of its pages, that it is well calculated to accomplish that object.

Its pages will be open to original communications only, relating either to the anatomy and physiology, or to the pathology and therapeutics of the organs of sight and hearing. As we look over the list of contributors in the number before us, we observe the names of many of the most eminent oculists and aurists of the United States and Europe, men whose names are a sufficient guarantee of the scientific character, and practical value of the work. We observe several papers by Moos on the medicolegal importance of certain diseases of the ear, which we think are of considerable interest to the general practitioner, but want of space precludes their insertion. We believe the archives to be almost indispensable to those who devote themselves wholly to diseases of the eye and ear, and of great interest and value to the general practitioner who wishes to keep up a good general knowledge on all branches of medicine.

DISEASES OF CHILDREN. By MEIGS AND PEPPER. Fourth Edition (OF MEIGS ON DISEASES OF CHILDREN :) Revised and greatly Enlarged. Philadelphia, Lindsay & Blakiston, 1870.

We have looked over this work rather carefully and believe it is an eminently practical, reliable, and useful book. One to which the student or practitioner may confidently refer for counsel or