

latory system. The writers in this section are to be congratulated on having produced a series of articles of a high scientific and literary character, and in the comparatively limited space of 569 pages the student of cardiac pathology will find both the older and newer views on this subject fully and clearly stated.

An excellent and thoughtful article is contributed by Hoover on general considerations in cardio-vascular disease. Although giving full credit to the myogenic theory of the cardiac functions he refers to the importance of the neurogenic theory. The only fault we can find in this article is its compression into forty pages, only allowing of a very brief discussion of some of the obscure problems in connection with the normal and abnormal movements of the heart.

Babcock's chapter on myocarditis, a somewhat difficult subject to treat in a systematic article, is skilfully handled. The writer lays some stress on chronic infective processes, e.g. cholecystitis and appendicitis, as a cause of myocardial disease. The section devoted to treatment, whilst recognizing the limitations of the subject, is judicious and helpful.

The articles on acute endocarditis, valvular lesions, diseases of the arteries and aneurysm, are contributed by the distinguished editor. In the chapter on endocarditis, although the different types of disease are clearly dealt with, there is no attempt to divide the different forms into sharply divided classes, a method of treatment which must commend itself to both the clinician and the pathologist. The tonsils are regarded as the point of entry for micro-organisms infecting the valves in a large number of cases of rheumatic or obscure origin. Reference is made to malignant types of endocarditis with little or no fever. The chapter on valvular disease, written in conjunction with Gibson, is an admirable one, and the portion dealing with treatment is particularly valuable; the remarks on digitalis should clear away the confusion which even yet clings to the indications for the administration of this drug.

Dr. Maude Abbott's article on congenital cardiac disease is one of the best in the book, and obviously represents an enormous amount of painstaking research. Its value to future students of this subject is greatly enhanced by a full bibliography, a feature which, we regret to see, is omitted by many other contributors. Another Canadian physician, McPhedran, contributes the article on pericarditis; his treatment of the subject is full and clear and well repays perusal. Other chapters on the heart, on hypertrophy and on insufficiency and dilatation, by Gibson, on functional disease of the heart by Hoover, on thrombosis, embolism and phlebitis, by Beemer, and diseases of the lymphatic vessels by Warthin, conclude this portion of the work.