

*The Pathology and treatment of Diseases of the Skin*, by J. N. MILTON, Senior Surgeon to St. John's Hospital for diseases of the skin, Corresponding Member of the New York Dermatological Society, etc. 8 vo. pp. 348. London. Robert Hardwicke, 1872.

The treatment of any disease or class of diseases is nearly always that which gives rise to the greatest diversity of opinions owing principally to the numerous practical and theoretical difficulties which surround our attempts at ascertaining the true physiological actions and *modus operandi* of any given remedy. Further, accuracy of diagnosis is absolutely essential to the correct determination of the therapeutical value of any curative agent, and probably in no class of diseases is there more blending together and overlapping of the species composing it than in that under consideration, the skin diseases. Although, however, the study of dermatology is confessedly difficult, yet the importance of these affections, their extreme commonness, the inveteracy of many of their varieties, and the great suffering they are capable of producing, all combine to impress us with the necessity of every general practitioner being fully acquainted with the very best rational means to be adopted for their relief and if possible their cure. Mr. Milton's book therefore we consider very acceptable as embodying his clinical experience as derived from observations at the largest special hospital of the British Metropolis during a term of years. Besides giving a general resumé of the methods of practice at present recommended for each disease by the most eminent living and recent authorities, our author supplements this by much practical matter and is always ready to give expression to his own views and ideas on the subject. Indeed, we think, if there be a fault, it is that he is apt to be a little too dogmatic and authoritative, sometimes laying down the law quite fiercely and glorying in upsetting to his own satisfaction, some hitherto well-established doctrine of treatment. At any rate this is a fault on the right side, for we