

remembrance in forthcoming generations. For dictionaries also are but products useful for their day and time, and the fame of this dictionary, and the benefit it conferred upon the profession, has led to other and even fuller and more thorough dictionaries and systems of medicine, and of the various branches of medicine, being published in large numbers, more especially on this continent. None perhaps will ever have quite the success that Quain's first dictionary attained; it is worth while to study Quain in order to appreciate the marvellous advance made during the last fifteen years. Probably no more successful work has ever been published, and yet its second edition in 1894 is already completely overshadowed by the new systems of Allbutt and again of American writers. Already, therefore, the interest of Quain's dictionary is largely historical. There remains but one lasting benefit to the profession with which Quain's name ought always to be associated, the discovery namely, or, to be more accurate, the recognition, contained in a paper delivered to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London in 1850, of Fatty Degeneration of the Heart and the important part played by this in cardiac failure. In this he performed good and lasting work. In other respects, hard as he worked and hard as he strove to do what he considered to be his duty, and great as was his influence upon his contemporaries, it may be questioned, looking at his life from the outside and from a distance, whether Quain accomplished for the profession all that one with his singular opportunities might have accomplished. Much as he did, he might have accomplished more. Obtaining very early in his career influential positions in the leading medical bodies in Great Britain, he was perhaps throughout too much of an official and too little appreciative of the power that lay in his hands to ally himself to those who had liberal and progressive views.

But granting this, he is an interesting study of the popular and influential consultant imbued with a love for work for the profession and with a conscientious desire to be of service.

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#### NEW BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED AND NOTED.

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Therapeutics of Infancy and Childhood. By A. Jacobi, M.D. Second Edition. J. B. Lippincott Company. Philadelphia. 1898.

Diseases of Women. By J. C. Webster, B.A., M.D. William Drysdale & Co., Montreal. 1898.