

*Nervous and Mental Diseases.* By ARCHIBALD CHURCH, M.D., Prof. of Clinical Neurology and of Mental Diseases and Medical Jurisprudence in the North-western University, Chicago, etc., etc.; and FREDERICK PETERSON, M.D., Clinical Professor of Mental Diseases in Woman's Medical College, New York; Chief of Clinic, Nervous Department, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York. With 305 illustrations. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, 925 Walnut Street. 1899. Toronto: J. A. Carveth, & Co. Price, cloth, \$5.00; half morocco, \$6.00.

We have here a large octavo volume of 843 pages. This work is gotten up in the elegant style so characteristic of all of W. B. Saunders' publications. The paper, type, illustrations and binding are everything that could be desired.

This covers the entire field of nervous and mental diseases. In this regard it possesses a distinct advantage over many able works that treat of only sections of the work, such as organic or functional diseases of the nervous system, or diseases of the mind. Dr. Church takes the former, and Dr. Peterson the latter portions of the work.

From the reputation of these two authors, one turns to this work with high expectations. It must be admitted at once that, with rapid change of opinion and advance in knowledge that is taking place along the whole line of neurology and alienism, it is not an easy task to produce a book that will be found to be well up-to-date and accurate on all points. It must be said that a careful perusal of this work makes it clear that the authors have left nothing undone to fulfil these two requirements. Lengthy discussions on debatable subjects are carefully avoided. One of the leading features of the work is its directness and definiteness of statement.

The care with which the illustrations have been selected deserves more than a mere passing word. It rarely falls to the lot of the reviewer to speak with so much pleasure of this feature of medical works as in the present case. To take as an instance, fig 19 expresses in a glance what it would take pages to explain. The numerous illustrations giving the attitude and gait of many nervous diseases are very important. This feature of the study of nervous diseases has been far too much ignored in many of our best works. In the section devoted to mental diseases, the illustrations are very typical and helpful.

If anyone wishes to read a masterly description of any extremely difficult question, we would commend to him the article on "Paranoia." One statement at once attracts the attention, where the writer states that the prognosis is absolutely unfavorable. It is not often that we meet with such clear cut