

Brothers' Hospital; Dermatologist to Pius Hospital, to the Rebekah Hospital, to the St. Louis Polyclinic and Emergency Hospital, etc., etc. Being Volumes II and III of "Syphilis To-Day and Among the Ancients," complete in three volumes. 12mo, 300 pages. Extra cloth, \$1.50 net. Philadelphia: The F. A. Davis Co., Publishers, 1914 and 1916 Cherry street.

These two volumes, bound together, complete Dr. Buret's work on syphilis to-day and among the ancients, volume I, syphilis in ancient and prehistoric times, having appeared some time ago, and demonstrated the existence of syphilis, not only in the most ancient historic epochs, but also in prehistoric remains. The second volume gives the history of the disease during the Middle Ages, from the fall of the Roman empire up to the end of the fifteenth century, and in doing so makes an exhaustive examination of the literature of this period. Brief extracts are given from the scientific, historical and literary documents of numerous writers, bearing upon venereal diseases described under a number of different titles. He passes under review the writings of the principal masters who were inspired by the doctrines of Hypocrates and Galen, next the Arabists, the school of Salernum, and various authors of the 14th and 15th centuries. Chapter 3rd treats of the great epidemics of the Middle Ages, the worship of Venus in the monasteries of the tenth century.

Then follows an account of the great epidemic of Naples, in which other contagious diseases than syphilis are included; the identity of the leprosy of the Middle Ages and syphilis is discussed, followed by chapters on the origin and nomenclature of venereal diseases, and the pretended American origin of syphilis. The latter describes how this legend of the American origin was born. Guaiac was obtained from the new world, and was said to be a specific, and as they held that Providence always places the remedy next the disease, the new world was proclaimed to be the cradle of the pox, and it was concluded that the disease had been brought to Europe by the crews of Christopher Columbus. The author in this work completely dispels this delusion, which has been generally endorsed until recent times in the present century.

The third volume gives an account of syphilis from the 15th century to the present time; it depicts the vice which reigned in ecclesiastical institutions among popes, cardinals, bishops, clergy and women in convents. The name syphilis had its origin in a poem by Francaster, a physician of Verona, in 1530. The use of mercury in the 15th century was adopted from the empirics. A history of its use is given, and also of guaiac, smilax and sarsaparilla. Chapters 2 and 3 gives venereal pathology as it was understood in the 17th and 18th centuries. In the latter we learn that the speculum was used in the 6th century by Paulus Aegineta, and that one was found in the ruins of Pompeii (destroyed in 79). Hunter's work in 1786 is noted. Chapter 4 describes the work on syphilis during the 19th century. The schools of the identists and unicists are referred to, and the work of Ricord, the most distinguished syphilographer of the century. The concluding chapter reviews the procedures employed in venereal therapeutics from the most remote times to the present day. This classical book makes most interesting and instructive reading, carrying the reader over the history of the world from the most remote times, and showing that this scourge of sexual indulgence has manifested itself in all countries, and from prehistoric times down through the ages.