

are given for the convenience of those desiring to make extended research.

The volume contains a "selected list of new books, new editions and translations," which will give the reader a knowledge of the latest and best literature under each head. The index of authors quoted, and index of subjects, complete and close a volume which is authoritative, well arranged, serviceable for every medical man, and universally available owing to its very moderate price.

*Common Neuroses.* By J. F. GOODHART, M.D., F.R.C.P.; Physician to Guy's Hospital. Three Lectures delivered before the Harveian Society of London, 1891. London: H. K. Lewis, 136 Gower Street, W. C. 1894.

If any of our readers are looking for a readable book on an interesting subject, we can commend to their notice the above lectures.

They are replete with useful hints, and will afford to the busy practitioner about as much good, sensible entertainment in attractive form, with good type, etc., as he will find anywhere on the shelves of the medical bookseller.

Such works are invaluable, dealing as they do with subjects of every-day interest.

The name of Dr. Goodhart will be a sufficient guarantee of the soundness of the facts contained in this work.

**ICE IN ACUTE PNEUMONIA.**—Professor Mays urges the value of this treatment: He has the chest on the front side and back of the area affected surrounded with rubber bags filled with ice. The number of these depends on the size of the area involved. They are allowed to remain until the temperature becomes nearly normal. If a new portion of the lung is involved, the ice bags are removed to this spot, and this is continued until the tendency to extension ceases — *Philadelphia Polyclinic*.

## Progress of Medical Science.

### AMERICAN GOUT.

Lithæmia is so preëminently the form in which gout shows itself in this country that Da Costa has characterized it as "American Gout." As he has, by his former contributions to the subject, done very much towards giving us clearer views upon the pathology and therapeutics of this hydra-headed morbid state, a brief abstract of an unpublished address which he recently delivered, by request, before the students at the University of Pennsylvania, will prove especially interesting at this time.

By the term lithæmia is understood the morbid condition closely allied to gout, in which lithic or uric acid and other waste products accumulate in the blood, and cause certain toxic effects, as well as interfere with normal metabolism. Symptoms, like those of lithæmia, have been found where the urine shows neither uric acid nor urates in excess, nor oxalates. They might be accounted for, perhaps, by the presence of waste products in the urine, such as acetones and peptones; though, as yet, no accurate chemical researches have been made on this point. It is convenient to retain the term lithæmia as broadly covering the state of the system associated with waste products, even though not specifically uric acid until we find a better name for the whole malady. The title "uricæmia," or even "uric-acidæmia," which has been suggested as a synonym for the older term, is not an improvement, since it implies that the symptoms are due entirely to excess of uric acid, which is taking quite too limited a view of its pathology. In fact, after referring to the theories of Murchison, Roberts, Haig and others with regard to the pathology of the lithæmic or gouty diathesis, Professor Da Costa