

self are distasteful. Moreover, the volume is replete with glaring violations of the simplest grammatical rules, which we would fain hope can be honestly laid upon the already burdened shoulders of that scape-goat, the proof-reader. For the credit of the profession, the author, and the publisher, an expurgated edition in much better dress is called for.

*A Treatise on Albuminuria.* By W. HOWSHIP DICKINSON, M.D. Cantab, Physician to St. George's Hospital and Hospital for Sick Children, etc. Second edition. New York: William Wood & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

This excellent treatise forms the first volume of "Wood's Library of Standard Medical Authors" for 1881. As a writer on "Diseases of the Kidneys," Dr. Dickinson has been well known for many years. In this work he treats of tubal and diffuse nephritis, granular kidney, and lardaceous disease. His views on these subjects have not changed materially since the issue of the first edition in 1868, but he has elaborated some points more fully, and has re-written some portions.

Two new chapters are found in this edition. One treats of the "Condition of the heart and arteries in chronic renal diseases." In discussing the theories as to the cause of the hypertrophy of the arteries and left ventricle, he discards entirely the view of Gull and Sutton, that these changes are simply part of a general condition, to which they give the name, "arterio-capillary fibrosis," and which they say is not due to renal deficiency.

He also objects to the idea of the existence of any antagonism between the heart and arteries with arterioles, as included in the "stopcock" theory of George Johnson. He believes that this condition of the vascular system is caused directly by capillary hindrance to the passage of blood vitiated by imperfect renal action, thus accepting the essential points of the views enunciated by Bright many years ago. In the second new chapter on "Retinal Changes from Albuminuria," he describes serous infiltration, hæmorrhages, and the white spots of fatty degeneration, and considers that

albuminuric "retina" would be a more correct term than "retinitis," because the latter signifies an inflammatory process which is not usually associated with the changes described.

The author gives an exhaustive description of the diseases mentioned, including the opinions of others, and at the same time the results of his own extensive researches. He gives causes, symptoms, pathology, and treatment, and illustrates his views by reports of cases in such a way as to make the whole book thoroughly instructive and interesting. The numerous plates, many of which are coloured, add still more to the value of the work. Altogether, it is well worthy of the post of honour as the first in the series for the year.

*Syphilis and Marriage.* Lecture delivered at the St. Louis Hospital, Paris. By PROF. ALFRED FOURNIER. Translated by P. Albert Morrow, M.D. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1, 3 & 5 Bond St. 1881.

Syphilis in marriage is a subject upon which every practitioner of medicine is bound to hold an intelligent and reasoning opinion. The circumstances in which he is liable to be called upon to formulate that opinion, and the momentous and far-reaching character of the issues involved must make him pause before reaching a conclusion based upon a limited individual experience. In the work under present consideration will be found the materials for a just decision, and, what is more, the clearly defined and enunciated views of a master who has devoted a lifetime to the subject, and viewed it in its every phase. It will not be a matter of surprise, therefore, that thoroughness of treatment, delicacy, tact and ingenuity in handling the subject are characteristics of the work. The subject is broadly considered under two chief conditions, viz.:—Before marriage and after. In the former, after disposing of certain preliminary questions, the following topics are successively considered, in so many chapters: Direct Contagion, Syphilis by Conception, Paternal Heredity, Mixed Heredity, Maternal Heredity, Personal Dangers of Husbands, Conditions of Admissibility to Marriage (Absence of Actual Specific Accidents—Advanced Age of