

ALVARENGA PRIZE OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF PHILADELPHIA.

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia announces that the next award of the Alvarenga Prize, being the income for one year of the bequest of the late Senor Alvarenga, and amounting to about one hundred and eighty dollars, will be made on July 14, 1892. Essays intended for competition may be upon any subject in Medicine, and must be received by the Secretary of the college on or before May 1, 1892. It is a condition of competition that the successful essay or a copy of it shall remain in possession of the College.

CHARLES W. DULLES,
Secretary.

The Drevet Manufacturing Company have removed their factory from 10 West 4th Street, to 28 Prince Street, New York City.

BOOK NOTICES.

THE THERAPEUTIC GAZETTE with January, 1892, begins the sixteenth year of its publication, under the editorial management of Hobart Amory Hare, M. D., George E. de Schweinitz, M. D., and Edward Martin, M. D.

INTRODUCTION TO THE ANTISEPTIC TREATMENT OF WOUNDS, According to the Method in use at Professor Billroth's Clinic, Vienna, arranged for Students and Physicians. Translated with the author's permission, from the German of Dr. Victor R. v. Hacker, Assistant in the Clinic Billroth; Professor in Surgery; Surgeon to the Allgemeines Poliklinik and the Erzherzogin-Spital in Wein, by Surgeon-Captain C. R. Kilgely, M. B., Army Medical Staff. London: Percival & Co., 1891. Price Two Shillings.

SAUNDER'S QUESTION COMPENDS, No. 21. Essentials of Nervous Diseases and Insanity: their Symptoms and Treatment. A manual for students and practitioners. By John C. Shaw, M.D., Clinical Professor of Diseases of the Mind and Nervous system, Long Island College Hospital Medical School; Consulting Neurologist to St. Catherine's Hospital, and Long Island College Hospital; formerly Medical Superintendent King's County Insane Asylum. Forty-eight original illustrations, mostly selected from the Author's private practice. Philadelphia, W. B. Saunders, 913 Walnut Street, 1892.

THE PHYSICIAN'S VISITING LIST (Lindsay & Blakiston's) FOR 1892. Forty-first year of its publication. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co. (successors to Lindsay & Blakiston) 1012 Walnut Street.

This always popular Visiting List presents one or more new features for the coming year. There is a short account, compiled by Dr. Geo. M. Gould, of the diagnosis and treatment of the simpler superficial diseases of the eye. A table showing the characteristic characters of the urine in the various forms of Bright's disease may prove of value when more important sources of information are not

handy. The publishers deserve credit for their efforts, year after year, in bringing out a list which fulfils such a useful purpose.

J. B. Flint & Co., New York, have in press, and ready early in the current year the following books: A COMPLETE SYSTEM OF GYNÆCOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS, with 869 new illustrations based upon translations from the French of Pozzi, Auvard, and others, revised by Chas. Jewett, M. D., bound in leather or half morocco, \$8.00.

FLINT'S CONDENSED COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY. Arranged upon a new system, and embodying the various methods of treatment employed by eminent practitioners. The most valuable and complete work of this nature ever published. The result of a year's labor of a large corps of writers. Leather or half morocco, two volumes, \$8.00 per volume. The above works sold by subscription.

Also in press, ready March 1st, the "Electro-Therapeutics of Gynaecology," by Augustin H. Goelet, M.D. Cloth bound, \$2.50.

SYPHILIS IN ANCIENT AND PREHISTORIC TIMES. By Dr. Fred. Buret, Paris. Translated from the French with notes by A. H. Ohmann-Dumesnil, M.D., 12 mo., pp. 226. Philadelphia and London: F. A. Davis. 1891. St. Louis: J. H. Chambers & Co., 914 Locust St. Price \$1.25.

The scientific effort of the physician has been directed towards the evolution of a system of treatment by which the ravages and ulterior results of syphilis might be controlled. Fortunately for humanity, this has not been in vain.

The primordial origin of syphilis has been a matter for dispute, for lo! these many years, the majority of syphilographers considering the epidemic of 1491 as its starting point. From this time syphilis has been variously designated, *morbue gallicus*, the Neapolitan disease, the disease of the Germans, of the Poles, of the Spaniards, of the Turks, the disease of the holy man Job, of St. Sementius, of St. Mevius, of St. Roch; and last, but not least, the American Disease. The author has been stimulated by the premise suggested by Philippe Albert, that "to write the history of syphilis is, so to speak, to trace that of humanity." In accord therewith, "the volume is entirely devoted to the proofs of the existence of syphilis from the creation of the world to the Middle Ages." And further, "to eliminate numerous so-called proofs, which prove nothing," and to carefully study the archives of antiquity from prehistoric man and *Nuei King* (a medical treatise edited * * * by the Emperor Hoangty, of China, who lived 3637 B. C.) to "syphilis in Rome under the Cæsars."

To prove that "syphilis dates from the creation of man" is a task from which most of us would shrink. The author attempts this, and we must admit, has not only presented a very readable book, but one filled with much substantial information, if not absolutely convincing proof. A few pages are devoted to the nature, character and treatment of syphilis.

The translator, our colleague, Dr. Ohmann-Dumesnil, has fulfilled his task admirably, and is to be congratulated for his faithful adherence to the original text, and for his effort to present such an admirable historical sketch to English readers. We bespeak abundant endorsements for the effort.—J. L. B.