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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. XXVI.—*The Prevalence of Calculous Disease in the District of Montreal*; critique of Dr. Horace Nelson (*Northern Lancet*) on Prof. Gross' Work on the Urinary Organs. By A. HALL, M.D., Professor of Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children, McGill College, Montreal.

The September number of a little periodical, by no means regular in its monthly issues, and of no very exalted professional tone, called the *Northern Lancet*, has been, within the last few days, placed in my hands by a friend, and my attention directed to an article which professes to be a critique on Prof. Gross' work on the Urinary Organs. One would have imagined that Dr. Horace Nelson, the editor of this journal, having received such a work for review,—one, the excellence of which, admitted on all hands, has been enhanced by more recent researches on the part of the able and laborious author,—would have devoted some space to its consideration, and would have sedulously laboured to point out those novelties or addenda which are the peculiar merit of this edition, and on account of which it seeks preference and favour. Such is the usual practice in reviewing new editions of standard works. The profession looks to the reviewer, and it is the duty of the latter to notice, at least, some of the more important additions, if such there be, and to test the edition, upon their merits. Let us see how Mr. Dr. Horace Nelson, editor of the *Northern Lancet*, has fulfilled his self-imposed duty as reviewer of a work, which has certainly taken the highest rank among those of a kindred literature.

The bibliographical notice (!) occupies exactly thirty-nine lines, of which fifteen are devoted to the work; from which we learn that it is truly American, (for our part we thought that science was cosmopolitan); that it became at once standard; that a second edition was called for, which appeared with numerous additions, increasing its size to 200 ad-