

ground it has to cover, to be as complete as is possible. The plan adopted is that of dividing all the diseases of each organ into groups, by fixing upon some well-marked character which is possessed by some in common but which is wanting in others; and in the same way to divide and sub-divide each group. This seems to be a useful method of procedure, especially as it is apt to impress the mind with the leading and prominent features of such affection, together with a recollection of the somewhat resembling diseases from which the one under consideration required to be distinguished.

We cannot say that we find inaccuracies absolutely absent, and when present, from the necessarily dogmatic and unqualified statements of such a concise work, they tend to leave very erroneous impressions—impressions, too, which the student will find it hard to rid himself of. For instance, when speaking of the confessedly difficult diagnosis between typhoid fever and acute miliary phthisis, it is said “acute phthisis is distinguished from typhoid fever by the cough and difficulty of breathing, which appear earlier, and are more intense in the former, by the lower temperature, and the presence of the stethoscopic signs of tubercle when these exist.” Now this may sometimes and in the main be correct, but we confess to thinking that the student who looks to *lower temperatures* as one of the positive distinctions of acute phthisis will inevitably often find himself mistaken,—for we have seen cases where the temperatures have ranged continuously *much higher* than in the typical or average case of enteric fever—and yet to an inexperienced person the opposite would seem to be always the case. Other similar faults might be pointed out, but it must be admitted that it is the necessarily narrow limits of the work which forbid that hesitation and qualifying of positive statements which finds place in any intelligent treatise of more room when matters of difficult diagnosis are concerned.

It is illustrated with 84 wood-cuts, principally from standard authors, and well selected.