

to passing the seton augments the danger of the method, though fewer failures occur after it.

"7th. That the cure by seton is not more certain by allowing it to remain for a very long period, while it exposes to accidents.

"That it is least successful on the femur and humerus."

The other papers are all interesting and display a really great amount of labor, especially as regards statistics. The work is one which, while it will be found of interest to all, is of especial value, and should be found in the hands of every hospital surgeon.

*Lectures on Diseases and Injuries of the Ear.* Delivered at St. George's Hospital, London, by W. B. DALBY, F. R. C. S., M. B., Aural Surgeon to the Hospital,—twenty-one illustrations. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston, 1873. Montreal: Dawson Brothers.

Diseases of the ear are the torment of a general practitioner's life. This is due partly to the fact that they are met with to a great extent in children, whose tympanum it is difficult to get a glance at,—owing to the construction of the ear in such young subjects, and the restlessness of their nature; also the fact that many of the treatises upon this special department of surgery are so voluminous, as to be perfectly useless to one whose time is fully occupied by general practice.

This difficulty is fully met in the little volume of two hundred small pages, where, in an easy, off-hand sort of way, the principal diseases of the ear are described and the appropriate treatment mentioned. We have examined it pretty thoroughly, and we can recommend it to our friends as a *multum in parvo*.

*Diseases of the Mastoid Process.* By A. H. BUCK, M.D., New York.

Dr. Buck believes cases of this disease occur with tolerable frequency in ordinary practice, and that the mortality has been large from the condition being unappreciated. He asserts that in the majority of cases it arises *in situ* and not by extension. Dividing the subject into five headings, he details twenty-four cases in illustrating the diagnosis, pathology and treatment of each variety, and gives a table showing the successful results of operative interference. Issued in pamphlet form. It is a useful addition to the literature of Aural Surgery.

## Medical Items.

### TO RESTORE COLOR TO FABRICS.

When color on a fabric has been accidentally or otherwise destroyed by acid, ammonia is applied to neutralize the same, after which an application of chloroform will, in almost all cases, restore the original color. The application of ammonia is common, but that of chloroform is little known. Chloroform will also remove paint from a garment, or elsewhere, where benzole or bisulphide of carbon fails.—*American Artisan*.

The student who was asked the use of starch in germination, and who replied that, "In the German nation, as elsewhere, starch is used for doing up linen and similar laundry purposes," intends to take an extra course of botany during summer vacation.—*Boston Journal of Chemistry*.

### OXIDE OF ZINC FOR NIGHT-SWEATS.

The most ancient and venerable remedy for night-sweats is aromatic sulphuric acid, in infusion of cinchona, or serpentaria, etc. According to the *Pacific Medical and Surgical Journal*, the best remedy is the following:—R Oxidi zinci, gr. xxx.; Ext. hyoscyami, gr. xv.; M. f. pil. x; Sig.: Take one at bedtime.

The nativity of Adam is not a matter of doubt with the Darwinians, who believe him to have been a germ-man.—*Boston Journal of Chemistry*.

Lice may be effectually destroyed by washing with an infusion of larkspur (*Delphinium*). A remedy which, while prompt in its action, is entirely devoid of danger,—as much cannot be said for some of the other parasitocides.

Sir James Paget says the best wash for hardening the skin to prevent bed-sores, is one part of sweet spirits of nitre to three parts of water.

### BIRTHS.

At Fleetwood Farm, Lachine, P.Q., on Sunday, 24th November, the wife of Dr. William Mackay, of a son.

At Orona, Ont., on the 23rd November, the wife of Herbert Renwick, of a daughter.

### MARRIAGES.

In Montreal, on the 11th November, at the residence of Dr. Wm. Fuller, by the Rev. J. T. Pitcher, Murray Pettit, Esq., to Ella, second daughter of Dr. R. Fuller, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

### DIED.

In Montreal, on November 23rd, Marie Louise, aged 13 years, child of Edmond Robillard, M.D.

On the 10th November, at her late residence, East Hawkesbury, Elizabeth Everett, widow of the late C. M. Everett, M.D., aged 62 years.

On the 14th November, at St. Johns, P.Q., of typhoid fever Charles Hugh, son of R. H. Wight, M.D., aged 25 years.

### MONTREAL:

Printed by JOHN LOVELL, 23 & 25 No. St. Nicholas Street.