

PRACTITIONER'S HANDBOOK OF DISEASES OF THE EAR AND NASO-PHARYNX. By H. Macnaughton Jones, M.D., M.Ch. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1887; pp. 176.

This work will be found to contain a clear and concise exposition of the important diseases of the ear. It is not an exhaustive treatise in aural surgery, but it contains clear and concise rules for practice, with hints as to treatment of the most common diseases of the ear, met with in every-day work, which will, we are sure, be very acceptable to the general practitioner. The work is profusely illustrated.

ELEMENTARY MICROSCOPICAL TECHNOLOGY. A Manual for Students of Microscopy, in Three Parts. Part 1. By Francis L. James, P.L.D., M.D. St. Louis: The St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal Co.

This work will be of great use to students in microscopy. The author pre-supposes no acquaintance with the subject on the part of the learner, and each step of the work, each step and manipulation is explained in orderly sequence. Parts 2 and 3 will appear in due time.

ANÆMIA. By Fredrick P. Henry, M.D., Prof. of Clinical Medicine, in the Philadelphia *Polyclinic*, etc. Reprinted from the *Polyclinic*. Philadelphia: P. Blackiston, Son & Co. 1887. pp. 134. 75c.

A useful little book, dealing with the subject in a concise and lucid manner.

THE VEST POCKET ANATOMIST. By C. Henri Leonard, A.M., M.D., Professor of Diseases of Women, Detroit College of Medicine, etc. 13th revised edition, with plates. Detroit: The Illustrated Medical Journal Co.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PHYSICIANS. First Session. Washington, June, 1886. Vol. 1.

WYTHES' POCKET DOSE BOOK. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co., 1887. 17th Edition.

A STEP IN THE REFORM OF ENGLISH SPELLING.—Professor Skeat, in a recent number of *Notes and Queries*, says:

"Those who know the whole history of our spelling from the eighth century to the present time, best understand the harm done by the pernicious system of trying to transplant Latin and Greek symbols into the English language. The

symbols *æ* and *œ* are not English, and are best avoided. Indeed, this is done in practice when once a word becomes common. *Ether* and *ætherial* have been sensibly replaced by *ether* and *etherial*. No one writes *æternal*. *Solæcism* is now *solecism*, and I trust *primeval* and *medieval* will soon prevail over *primæval* and *mediæval*. Pedantic spellings are most objectionable, because they are useless and unphonetic."

We heartily agree with Professor Skeat, and trust that *diarrhæa*, *leucorrhœa*, *dysmenorrhœa*, etc., will soon give place to *diarrhea*, *leucorrhea*, *dysmenorrhea*, etc.

The above is from the *British Medical Journal*. To be consistent, however, the *Journal* must also use *edema*, *fetus*, *Cesarean*, etc. The characters *æ* and *œ* are not English, and should not be tolerated in anglicised words.—*Col. Med. Jour.*

AN ALLEGED INSTANCE OF REMARKABLE FERTILITY.—A correspondent sends us an extract from a book giving the history of a journey to Saragossa, Barcelona, and Valencia, in the year 1585, by Philip II, of Spain. The book was written by Henrique Cock, who accompanied Philip as his private secretary. On page 248 the following statements are to be found: At the age of eleven years, Marparita Gonzalez, whose father was a Biscayan, and whose mother was French, was married to her first husband, who was forty years old. By him she had seventy-eight boys and seven girls. He died thirteen years after the marriage, and, after remaining a widow two years, the woman married again. By her second husband, Thomas Ochoa, she had sixty-six boys and seven girls. These children were all born in Valencia, between the fifteenth and thirty-fifth years of the mother's age, and at the time when the account was written she was thirty-five years old and pregnant again. Of the children, forty-seven by the first husband and fifty-two by the second were baptized; the other births were still or premature. There were thirty-three confinements in all.—*N. Y. Med. Jour.*

ERGOT has been found very useful in the diarrhœa of phthisis, as well as in the night sweats of that disease.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

At Tilsonburg, on 3rd June, Dr. Bart. B. Patallo, aged 28 years.

In New York, June 3rd, Dr. Geo. H. Shaver, of Islington, Ont.

At Prescott, on 1st June, Dr. George C. Hart, aged 33 years.