

Montreal, not a little of which has appeared in the pages of this JOURNAL. Justice we are glad to note has also been done to the French literature on the subject. For long years French workers have paid special attention to the liver, and have been indeed pioneers in certain directions, and as their results do not in general receive adequate attention in the German writings, to which hitherto we have been accustomed to turn for fuller study, it is well that they are here treated with the respect they deserve. Italian literature has also contributed its due quota. We would only add that written as the work is by a physician, no attempt is made to discuss the surgery of the liver and bile passage although the surgeon will find that the etiology and symptomology of the conditions which must interest him: cholelithiasis, cholecystitis, hepatic abscess, etc., come in for thorough treatment.

The various forms of cirrhosis are discussed with great care. We have here, in short, the best and fullest study of these conditions with which we are acquainted in any language. Next to this the condition of jaundice and of hepatic tumours are the most important sections, and the syphilitic affections of the organ are treated in a masterly manner.

The only section that appears to us unsatisfactory is that on the fatty liver. It is true that Rosenfeld's observations upon the nature of "fatty degeneration," so called, have severely shaken up the old accepted views regarding this form of fatty liver. We think, nevertheless, that it would have been well to differentiate more clearly than has been done between the almost physiological infiltration of the healthy cell, the cell, that is, with deeply staining and healthy looking nucleus, and the degenerative infiltration, in which the nuclear change alone is sufficient to indicate that the cell is greatly damaged. Dr. Rolleston's difficulty appears to arise from doubt as to where to place the alcoholic and tuberculous fatty livers. While, as in chloroform poisoning, there may in acute alcoholism be developed a true "fatty degeneration," closely resembling that seen in phosphorus poisoning—i.e., the cells containing a mass of fat droplets of various sizes, some distinctly large—in ordinary chronic alcoholism the condition is one of pure fatty infiltration. We have no satisfactory indications, that is, that in small amounts, alcohol acts as a protoplasmic poison to the liver, although it obviously does so in large amounts; the appearance in chronic alcoholism are merely those of excessive storage of fat. In tuberculosis,—though here we speak with more diffidence,—the same would seem to be true. Judging by the nuclei the liver cells are not in a degenerative condition. We must suppose that, as in starvation, the tissues in general, undergoing emaciation, give up their fat, which then is found in increased amounts in the