

### Books and Pamphlets.

THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE. By William Osler, M.D., F.R.C.P., London; Professor of Medicine in Johns Hopkins University, and Physician-in-Chief to the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, etc., etc. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Toronto Agency, 170 Yonge St., Toronto.

The medical profession of Canada especially, have been for some time awaiting the advent of this work of Dr. Osler, not only on account of the warm personal friendship which exists between the profession of Canada and the author, but particularly on account of his known ability and thoroughness in the handling of every subject to which he applies himself, and in the careful study of the work to hand, the most critical cannot fail to be in the fullest sense satisfied. It would be impossible for us, in the short space allowed for a note of the work, to do it even scant justice, but we venture to mention some of the chapters which have especially commended themselves. The author begins in Section I. with "Specific Infectious Diseases," and first deals with the common yet complex malady, Typhoid Fever. We consider his handling of the etiology—modes of conveyance and morbid anatomy of this disease the most concise and clear of any treatise extant. In many works these particular portions of the subject are left after discussion, so unsettled and unsatisfactory that the reader can scarcely be said to have received any decided benefit from the perusal, but is, if anything, left more befogged. Anyone who will carefully read the pages referred to in Dr. Osler's work will receive a very clear and positive impression of the most recent and accepted views regarding the etiology of this disease, and in the pages devoted to the morbid anatomy will have received such information as will give him a very intelligent idea of the disease which is afterwards so fully dealt with in the matter of diagnosis and treatment. If we may venture to specially mention any particulars in Section I. we would commend chapters 1 on Typhoid Fever, 21 on Malarial Fever, and particularly chapter 26 on Tuberculosis. The latter is undoubtedly one of the most instructive and valuable portions of the whole treatise; seventy-two pages are devoted to the subject, and therein are set forth in a remarkably clear and masterly manner, the features of this interesting affection. Beginning with the zoological distribution (which though a short paragraph is an exceedingly interesting one) he passes to the discussion of the features and properties of the bacillus itself, taking up its morphology—modes of growth, products, distribution, etc. In paragraphs 5 and 6 under this head he has elucidated the subject with observations on 427 cases at the Johns Hopkins Hos-

pital. The morbid anatomy, as well as the acute and chronic tuberculous processes are ably handled. Section III. of the work is devoted to the diseases of the digestive system, and of the chapters in this section, chapter 6 on Diseases of the Stomach, we think among the best. The subject of Gastritis is especially well handled under the head of Acute, Phlegmonous, Toxic, Diphtheritic, Mycotic, and Chronic Gastritis. In Section V., which treats of diseases of the circulatory system, we notice the influence which has been borne by the author from his long contact with medical students, who have painfully and studiously wrestled with the modifications undergone by the central circulatory organ in its multiple affections, and many medical students hereafter will bless Dr. Osler for his clear classification and lucid exposition of the etiology and mechanism of cardiac murmurs, whilst the most scientific and skilled "heart specialist" will find a grounding for close study and further observation in the author's chapters on Arrhythmia, Tachycardia and Brachycardia. Section VII. on "Diseases of the Nervous System," to which 220 pages of the work are devoted is perhaps the most classical part of the book; paragraph 2 of this section devoted to affections of the blood-vessels, is in our opinion perfect. In the chapter on "Affections of the Substance," disturbance of muscular action is made the basis for localization of lesion. Spinal localization is contended for, and the table prepared by Starr on "Localization of the Functions of the Segments of the Spinal Cord," is given. The subject of cerebral localization is, whilst somewhat condensed, very clearly put. The last section of the work is devoted to diseases due to animal parasites, and those of us who have known Dr. Osler in earlier days can recognize therein his still existing love for zoological and biological study, and in this short chapter of 27 pages is embodied a very practical history of the animal parasites. We may again assert that in this brief review we do not profess to do more than allude to those parts which have specially commended themselves to us in a superficial examination of the work. Anything from the pen of Professor Osler cannot fail to be interesting, but in his treatise on the "Principles and Practice of Medicine" Dr. Osler has produced a work which will, by the scientific and thorough handling of the whole subject, impress favorably every reading member of the medical profession, and add still more to his popularity. The lucidity and incisiveness with which the whole of medicine is dealt with, his comprehension of the difficulties of the student, and the requirements of the practitioner, has produced a practical treatise on the practice of medicine, which not only bears evidence of the true character and real mind of this able scientific teacher and investigator, but a work which will commend itself to all students of medicine.