

poison that has caused all the mischief." Dr. Tanner says his experience tends to confirm that of Dr. Jones, of Jersey, of the benefits to be derived from the employment of digitalis in large doses.

We have no doubt that all who patronised the Manual of Dr. Tanner will be anxious to obtain the work in its enlarged and improved edition; to others we can especially commend it as being replete with the most valuable practical information. It is neatly got up, and substantially bound, by the publishing house, whose imprint the book bears, that of Lindsay & Blackston, of Philadelphia.

PERISCOPIC DEPARTMENT.

Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children.

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

By G. STEVENSON SMITH, L.R.C.S.E, Fellow of the Obstetrical Society, and formerly resident Medical Officer, Royal Edinburgh Hospital for sick children.

ACUTE HYDROCEPHALUS.

The following cases are intended to illustrate the chief symptoms of Acute Hydrocephalus, which is one of the most frequent and most fatal affections of early life. The insidious manner of its approach, the extremely painful nature of its course and termination, as well as the resistance it usually offers to all treatment, cause this disease to be regarded both by parents and practitioners with feelings of anxiety and alarm.

It is one of that class of ailments for which unfortunately medicine can do but little; for although in recent years, mainly through the researches of French pathologists, we have become intimate with the structural changes and appearances which generally accompany an attack of hydrocephalus, we are still ignorant of any remedy on which we can rely as a cure. And consequently the annals of medicine record very few instances indeed of recovery having taken place, after any well-marked symptoms of water on the brain had manifested themselves. It is no uncommon thing for patients labouring under the chronic form of the disease to survive for many years, but in them the senses and the intellect are often impaired; in acute cases, however, a fatal result is almost invariable.

Case 1.—E. W., aged 6, had enjoyed tolerably good health up till the month of October, 1865; but about that time she began to fall off, her