

and has come to the conclusion that the latter is a condition of the pulmonary tract similar to that found on the skin in eczema. He also believes eczema resembles gout and rheumatism in certain respects, and is dependent on a similar unknown cause. In the treatment he lays great stress on dietetic and hygienic measures. He believes that arsenic is often of value in chronic cases, but used indiscriminately it may do harm. Cod-liver oil is well adapted to most cases. For eczema of the anus and genitals, which sometimes proves so intractable, he recommends hot water, as hot as can be borne, applied for about five minutes, the parts then pressed dry with a soft napkin, and some ointment containing tar and zinc immediately applied to exclude the air entirely. It is upon the whole a most admirable book, but is somewhat encumbered with matter which is not essential to the elucidation of the subject.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ONTARIO BOARD OF HEALTH, FOR THE YEAR 1883.

This report gives evidence of a considerable amount of labor on the part of the various members of the Board, but in the shape in which it is, we fear the outcome will be of little practical value to the general public. A few small pamphlets containing practical information on sanitary matters, circulated broadcast, would be of infinitely more service than this cumbrous report, which will be read by nobody, and referred to by very few outside of the small body of sanitarians. It is useful merely as a record of the labors of the board—an account of their stewardship, and as such is not wholly without interest. It seems a most difficult task to arouse any degree of interest in the public mind regarding sanitary reform. Even the approach of cholera seems hardly sufficient to arouse municipal authorities to a sense of their duties and responsibilities.

THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY for August, 1884. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

The August number of "The Popular Science Monthly" contains several interesting papers, among which may be mentioned two articles on the future of religion. The first, "The Ghost of Religion," is by Frederic Harrison, and is an attack on Mr. Spencer's "Unknownable," and the second, "Retrospective Religion," is Mr. Spencer's reply. "The World's Geyser-Regions," by Dr. Peale, with several full-page illustrations, is also very instructive. There is also a curious and interesting article on old-fashioned arithmetic, under

the title of "The Mystic Properties of Numbers." The Editor's Table is occupied with a discussion of the relations of "Science and the Temperance Reform."

Fifty cents a number, \$5 a year; with the CANADA LANCET \$7 per annum.

CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, by Charles H. Ralfe, M.D. Illustrated with 16 engravings. Philadelphia: H. C. Lea's, Son & Co.

THE DISSECTOR'S MANUAL, by H. Bruce Clarke, M.B., and Charles B. Lockwood, M.B., F.R.C.S., Eng. Illustrated with 49 engravings. Philadelphia: H. C. Lea's, Son & Co.

ELEMENTS OF SURGICAL PATHOLOGY, by Augustus J. Pepper, M.B., F.R.C.S., Eng. Illustrated with 81 engravings. Philadelphia: H. C. Lea's, Son & Co.

The above are three of a series of "Students' Manuals," issued by this well-known publishing house. They are octavo size, well printed, and handsomely bound. The object of these works is to furnish students and practitioners with a concise account of the subjects presented. The authors have apparently kept this object well in view, and the result of their labours is very satisfactory.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ASYLUM FOR INSANE, TORONTO, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th September, 1883.

From a casual glance at the superintendent's report, we find that the death rate has been very uniform for several years past, and considerably below the average mortality in asylums, being about $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. This is a fair estimate of the healthfulness of the inmates, and evidence also of favorable sanitary surroundings. The recoveries have been 65, out of 162 admissions during the year, or 40 per cent., or $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the entire population. The superintendent estimates the number of insane people in this province at 2,800 or 1 to 714 of the population, of which 90 per cent. are under asylum care. This is a much better showing than that of our neighbors across the line.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

On the 10th ult., Charles Sheard, M.D., M.R.C.S., Eng., Professor of Physiology and Pathology, Trinity Medical School, Toronto, to Virna, eldest daughter of E. Stanton, Esq., Toronto.

On the 2nd ult., at Uniontown, Kansas, the beloved wife of Dr. A. L. Fulton, Editor of the *Kansas City Medical Record*.