

Dr. Dulles gives an analysis of 119 cases, and endeavours to show that 111 may be explained by what he calls the "bursting theory." He says the skull is practically a hollow elastic case, and when a sufficient force is applied to any part of it, if this portion do not give way immediately, the axis in that line is shortened, and all the axes at right angles are correspondingly lengthened, so that the direct depressing force is connected with an indirect disruptive force acting at right angles to the direction of the former.

*A Treatise on the Diseases of the Nervous System.* By WILLIAM A. HAMMOND, M.D.

The fact that this work has now reached the eighth edition is evidence in itself of its excellence, and of the manner in which it is appreciated by the profession on this continent. The author has revised it thoroughly, made several changes, and added a section on "certain obscure diseases of the nervous system."

We know of no work which has been of so much use to general practitioners in the study of nervous disease. Many treatises have recently been published, which have shown great research and a deep knowledge of the subject on the part of the authors, but they have been more suited to the specialist in nervous disease. This volume contains over nine hundred pages, and is well up to our present state of knowledge in this interesting and important department.

*Electrolysis, its Theoretical Consideration and its Therapeutical and Surgical Applications.* By ROBERT AMORY, A.M., M.D., Member of the Massachusetts Medical Society; Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; Fellow of the American Academy of Medicine, etc., etc. Octavo, 314 pages. Illustrated by nearly one hundred fine wood engravings. Supplied only to subscribers for "Wood's Library of Standard Medical Authors," for 1886 (12 vols., price \$15.00), of which this is Vol. VIII. New York: William Wood & Company.

This subject has recently attracted much attention from the profession. This book contains much valuable information on the natural laws of the metabolism of tissues of the body, and the proper methods of applying electricity

to the human structure. In the chapters on the application of electrolysis to the treatment of diseases the author explains the actions of different currents and their applications in cancer, goitre, hypertrichosis, etc. It is probably the most complete work of the kind which has yet been written.

*Reference Hand-book of the Medical Science.* Edited by ALBERT H. BUCK, M.D. New York: William Wood & Company.

The third volume of this work has just been presented to the profession, and is quite equal to, if it does not surpass, its predecessors. This volume embraces all words with alphabetical initials from F to H, and every term in any way connected with medical science is most thoroughly discussed. A few examples will give an idea how comprehensive is the work. Under the word Fever we have thirty-five pages. First the history of fever, its etiology, symptoms and pathology are gone over, then the different varieties of fever are described in detail, with cuts showing their germs or microbes, if known, their temperature, charts, etc., and in the case of typhoid fever, a splendid chromo-lithograph of the ileum showing the peculiar lesions in Peyer's patches and the solitary glands. The different varieties of treatment are detailed, and the kind of diet best suited. To "Field Surgeons" are devoted fifty pages describing the organization of the army medical department, (almost entirely, however, as pertains to the army of the United States), the duties of regimental surgeons as regards the sick and the well, in camp, on march, or in battle; their duties as medical historians, as purveyors, inspectors, directors, etc. A most extensive list of medicines and hospital stores, instruments and surgical appliances (for the U. S. army) is given, also ration tables and the best methods of purifying the drinking water for the army. Then the various means of transport, the litters and ambulances are described, and numerous wood-cuts given; also cuts and plans of vessels for transport of the wounded by water, and the duties of the surgeons connected therewith. The articles on the "Heart" and on the construction and management of "Hospitals" are very compre-