

thorax upon the sudden accession of fever, particularly if associated with thoracic pain, however slight, following an operation.

Meralgia Paresthetica, otherwise known as Bernhardt's Disturbance of Sensation, is a disease characterized by paresthesia and disturbance of sensation on the outer side of the thigh, in the region supplied by the external cutaneous femoral nerve. Of the disease there are two varieties: first, the paresthesial, where there may be burning, tingling or stabbing pains severe enough to disable the patient or only a feeling of cold or numbness; second, the sensory disturbances, varying from slight hyperesthesia to total anæsthesia. The diagnosis is easy, prognosis doubtful and very little to be done in the way of treatment.

The book is one of considerable value, and in its third edition presents to the profession a complete work on medicine.

*A Text-Book of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Pharmacology.* By G. F. BUTLER, Ph-G., M-D., Professor of Materia Medica in the College of Physicians Surgeons, Medical Department of the University of Illinois; Professor of General Medicine and Diseases of the Digestive System, Chicago Clinical School, etc., etc. Third edition. Thoroughly revised. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, 925 Walnut Street. 1899.

The fact that a third edition of Dr. Butler's work has been called for since the first edition appeared in September, 1896, would naturally indicate that it has been found useful, particularly by the student of medicine. We should be inclined to think that as a ready work of reference it would also find a place on the desk of the busy practitioner. The arrangement of the drugs in groups, according to their therapeutic affinities, should make the study of any subdivision of the subject in hand less perplexing to the beginner, and will doubtless enable a practitioner to compare the composition of the various preparations with ease and despatch. The author, in addition to copious and timely selections from the best authorities, gives the personal observations of a skilled therapist in short, telling sentences, and by the frequent use of italics, enables the reader to seize on the salient points of the drug or preparation he wishes to study. A distinction is made between the toxic effects and the mere untoward results of drugs, which is rational in theory and will be useful in practical medicine. The article on Hematics, including animal extracts (organotherapy), will be found very readable. Under the heading of Alteratives, the Section on Arsenic contains some novel references to the uses of this drug, which will very much add to the interest of the reader. The remarks on the uses of colchicum are also very instructive. Owing to the really marvellous cures obtained through the use of anti-diphtheritic serum in diphtheria and of anti-streptococcic serum in septi-cemia, much interest naturally attaches to the perusal of the article on serum-therapy. The last chapter, devoted to pre-scriptions, contains detailed instructions on the art, not too widely diffused, of writing prescriptions in good Latin. Several useful hints to physicians on the business aspects of prescriptions are also given. In addition to a full general index, a clinical index is added, which, needless to say, is useful and time-saving. The typography and general appearance of the work reflects credit on the publisher.

J. J. C.

*Clinical Lectures on Mental Diseases.* By T. S. CLOUSTON. Fifth edition. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1898.

The changes and additions are so numerous in the present edition that it might almost be said to be an entirely new work on the subject, were it not that the author's inimitable charm in treating the matter is at once recognized by those who have followed his earlier work: a felicity of style which bids fair to make the present edition as popular a work for reference or general reading as the preceding editions have been on both sides of the Atlantic. Twenty elaborate plates, many colored, form an interesting feature, and add greatly to the value of the volume.

As the title of the book indicates, these are clinical studies. The author has very wisely refrained from entering deeply into pathological discussions upon a