

however, close here, and refer our readers to the work itself. Dr. Bullock deserves great credit for his excellent translation.

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ART. XII.—*On the Diseases, Injuries, and Malformations of the Rectum and Anus, with remarks on Habitual Constipation.* By T. J. Ashton, Surgeon to the Blenheim Dispensary, Fellow of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society, Member of the Pathological Society of London, Corresponding Member of the Pathological Society of Montreal, Member of the Council of the Harveian Society, formerly House Surgeon to the University College Hospital. Second edition, pp. 389. London: John Churchill, New Burlington Street. Montreal: B. Dawson.

In our third volume we noticed favourably the first edition of this, the best and most complete work that has yet appeared in the English language on the subject of which it treats. It affords us satisfaction to witness that a second edition has been so soon demanded, as it is proof that the profession of Great Britain have formed a favourable opinion of the value of the work. We are surprised that some of the enterprising publishers in the United States, have not made arrangements ere this for its republication. Books of far less merit have frequently been reprinted.

Among other chapters Mr. Ashton has one on habitual costiveness, a condition which is very common, and one that often continues in spite of the most judicious treatment. When present, it is the cause, by its sympathetic effects, of various disordered conditions, which render the life of the patient miserable. And these functional derangements are exceedingly apt, when they have existed for any time, to eventuate in serious organic diseases. Faecal accumulations occur in persons of sedentary habits, or those of a lax fibre, and those who through laziness neglect to empty, at stated periods, bowels loaded with matters which nature intended should be voided daily from them. It is one of the things hard to be accounted for, that a man should willingly make himself a walking cloaca, a receptacle for the conservation of his own fæces. The treatment of habitual constipation resolves itself into a few simple rules. 1st. The patient must be induced to "solicit nature" at some certain hour every day, the morning after breakfast being the best time. 2nd. Medicines should be administered for the purpose of acting as laxative, and as tonics to the relaxed bowels. 3rd. Exercise performed regularly and within fatigue should on no account be neglected.