

We have derived much amusement and no little profit from the perusal of this latest product of George Harley's pen, and we are thankful to say that the American edition, at all events, does not present those peculiarities of spelling by the omission of superfluous consonants, for which Dr. Harley is noted. Dr. Harley is a man of wide experience of men and the cities of men, and is thereby enabled to incorporate in his text many interesting and instructive anecdotes and reminiscences, *quorum magna pars fuit*; indeed in a lesser man, one whose reputation and attainments rested on a less solid foundation, the egoism of his style would be deemed insufferable. As it is, the littleness of a great man affords amusement and instruction; and the general modesty of science is enhanced by contrast with an exceptional though eminent devotee. The value and essentiality of a thorough knowledge of Chemistry and Physiology in the diagnosis and treatment of affections of the liver is well, and we believe not too strongly, set forth in the introduction. The Chemistry, Physics, and Physiology of the Liver are discussed in Chapter II. Chapter III is devoted to the Etiology of Jaundice, and here we may remark that we are surprised and disappointed to find a man of scientific training and habits, such as Dr. Harley is, lending his countenance to the perpetuation of the term, and look upon the reasons offered as totally unsatisfactory and insufficient. Our author is an uncompromising opponent of Frerichs' views, and a consistent supporter of Dr. Budd's theory of the origin of Jaundice from mechanical obstructions to its outflow, and from suppression of its secretion. Then follow two chapters containing general remarks on the Signs and Symptoms and Treatment of Hepatic disease; both of these are clear, interesting, and instructive. Chapter VI is, doubtless to the surprise of most modern readers, headed "Biliousness"—a term and condition which the author ably defends. Jaundice, Intrauterine, Congenital, and

Hereditary, Jaundice as a result of Enervation, Jaundice from Hepatic Congestion and Inflammation, and Jaundice caused by Disease-Germs, occupy the four succeeding chapters. Biliary concretions are next considered in an admirable chapter; after which come Hints on the Differential Diagnosis of Colics, Catarrhal Jaundice, Jaundice from Poisons, and Jaundice from Permanent Obstruction; all these are excellent, and bear the impress of the author's individuality in an unmistakable manner. His allusions to "Surgeon's errors" are amusing as well as edifying, though doubtless harmless, the culprits being Sir Henry Thompson and Sir James Paget. One of the ablest and most valuable chapters in the work is now introduced, on the Chemistry of the excretions as an aid to diagnosis and treatment. Pre-eminent excellence was doubtless to be expected here, from the author's well-known laboratory labours and predilections. The reference to melanin in the urine in Murchison's Patient (p. 479) doubtless goes further to prove the value of its presence as a sign of cancer, than the good taste of the author in his mode of narration. Abscesses of the Liver next claim attention and are followed by Cancer, Syphilis, Hydatids, Cystic Disease and Benign Degenerations. We may remark of Cancers, *en passant*, that the author admits only the soft forms of the disease, in this classification; excluding Scirrhus altogether. He adheres to the constitutional origin of cancer, in which we opine few modern surgeons will concur; but by the opinions of surgeons, as already indicated, the author lays no great store. Traumatic affections, Hepatic Ascites and Dropsy, Liver Spots and affections of the Gall-Bladder are next introduced; the discussion of the last-named being particularly good and commendable. The concluding chapter will be found of much convenience and utility, consisting of seventy-eight aphoristic Hints to aid in the Diagnosis and Prognosis of Diseases of the Liver.