

ing only with facts, to recommend the volume to the careful study of every practitioner, as affording his safest guides to practice within our knowledge.

We consider it altogether unnecessary to enter into a minute examination of a work which has received, and deservedly, such favourable notices from the medical press, but it is a duty which is owing to the present edition to specify wherein it differs from the first, and this consists in the addition of the last thirteen lectures, embracing some of the most important points connected with his subject. We now particularly allude to a rare and new form of disease, to which attention has been directed within the last few years by certain French writers, although it was first noticed as early as 1843 by Mr. Velpeau, and has been occasionally observed since that time. The disease has been called *uterine, retro-uterine or peri-uterine hæmatocele*, and consists of an *effusion of blood* either into the cellular tissue around the womb, or into the peritoneal cavity in the *cul de sac* between the uterus and rectum. When the hæmorrhage takes place into the peritoneal cavity, one source is the lining membrane of the Fallopian tube, as in one fatal case the blood was actually seen oozing from the fimbriated extremity. After the effusion of the blood, however, coagulation takes place, inflammation of a peritoneal character is set up, adhesions are formed, and a tumour is developed which may simulate an extra uterine pregnancy, retroversion of the uterus, pelvic cellulitis, or an ovarian tumour. After pointing out the diagnosis, and determining the mortality of this new affection from the number of cases already recognized, which were 41 in all, of which 33 ended in recovery, and 8 fatally, a ratio of 19.5 per cent., a large mortality, the author proceeds to consider the treatment, two varieties of which have been adopted, the expectant, and the evacuation of the cyst. The statistics of the value of these two modes of treatment are as yet too meagre to enable us to appreciate the true value of either; thus of 14 cases treated by the expectant plan, 11 recovered and 3 died, while of 27 cases treated by puncture, 22 recovered and 5 died.

With our limited space, we find it impossible to follow our author further. We cannot forbear this observation, however, that we have seldom perused a work of a more thoroughly practical character than the one before us. Every page teems with the most truthful and accurate information, and we certainly do not know of any other work from which the physician, in active practice, can more readily obtain advice of the soundest character upon the peculiar diseases which have been made the subject of elucidation.

The volume is issued in Blanchard & Lea's usual excellent artistic style.

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ART. XI.—*Report of the Board of Inspectors of Asylums, Prisons, &c., for the Year 1860.* Quebec: Hunter, Rose & Co. 1861.

The annual report to which we now briefly draw the attention of our readers, is that of 1860, presented by the inspectors of prisons, &c., a board consisting of the following gentlemen: Drs. Nelson and Taché, and Messrs. Meredith, Langton, and Macdonell. Since the appearance of the report the last named gentleman has been replaced by the appointment of J. M. Ferris, Esq., late M. P. P. for Brome.