

It will be seen by a glance through it that it is a most extensive and exhaustive one. In 1866 the late Sir John*Eric Erichsen delivered his famous lectures on concussion of the spine. These were greatly enlarged and published in 1875. This work gave a tremendous impetus to the study of traumatic affections of the nervous system in their clinical and medico-legal aspects. Those who have had experience with this class of cases will be ready to admit that Erichsen went too far in claiming organic and incurable results in too many of these cases. His name was a strong one in the courts, and it was a long time before the pendulum swung back to its proper position.

The writings of Page in Britain, Clevenger in America, Oppenheim in Germany and Charcot in France, laid the foundation for a truer and clearer conception of the manifold results of accident or injury on the nervous system.

It is here that the great value of a work such as the one before us, from the pen of Dr. Bailey, comes in to fill a most useful place. Enough has been said during the last thirty years by the above-named writers, and by others, such as Gowers, Strumpell, Dana, Starr, Weir-Mitchell, Bowlby, Bromwell, and many others, to justify the effort of gathering all our knowledge into one cover and forming a concrete structure out of it. This task Dr. Bailey has set down for himself. It was an ambitious one, and, if well performed, was calculated to bring much credit to the author.

Throughout the pages of Dr. Bailey's work there is evinced a thorough acquaintanceship with the literature of the subject. This is a first necessity in an author on such a subject. The next feature of the work that at once attracts attention is that it is written in a good free style. It is agreeable reading. Then there is a fine and even balancing of opinion. The duties of advocate on the one hand, and judge on the other, are kept well in mind. There is no special pleading for any preconceived theory. This necessitates that the writer must have had a large clinical experience, and we know that Dr. Bailey has had such, and has made good use of it.

In this age, with so much rapid travel and so many collision accidents continually occurring, with all the subsequent litigation, a thorough knowledge of the effects of injuries on the nervous system becomes a *sine quâ non* to every practitioner. We know of no place where this information can be found so well arranged as in the work before us. To Dr. Bailey and the publishers we extend our congratulations, and venture the prediction that this work shall be a standard upon the above subject for many years to come.

The work is printed in clear type, on superior paper, is well bound and fully illustrated.