

completed they will form a work that will be of invaluable assistance to the practitioner for reference, and to the teacher when clinical cases are wanting to illustrate his lectures. There are to be eight or ten parts issued quarterly at \$2.50 each part.

Montreal General Hospital Pathological Report for the Year ending May 1st, 1877. By WILLIAM OSLER, M.D., of McGill University. Vol. I. Montreal: Dawson Brothers, Publishers, 1878.

We gladly welcome this first pathological report from a Canadian hospital. It contains interesting records of cases from the post-mortem book of the General Hospital, which throughout bear witness to the well-known industry of the talented author. Dr. Osler's reputation as a pathologist and physiologist, already so high both at home and abroad, gains additional lustre from every production of his active brain and pen. We regret that space does not allow us to give our readers some extracts from this admirable volume. The cases, (some of the more important of which have already appeared more in detail in the *Canada Medical and Surgical Journal*) are carefully reported, grouped on an anatomical basis, the system of inspection of Virchow at the Charité Berlin having been followed. The book is dedicated to Dr. James Bovell of Toronto.

A Guide to Therapeutics and Materia Medica.

By ROBT. FARQUHARSON, M.D., Edin., F.R.C.P., London, Lecturer on *Materia Medica* at St. Mary's Hospital, Medical School, &c., enlarged and adapted to the U. S. Pharmacopœia by FRANK WOODBURY, M.D. Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea; Toronto: Hart & Rawlinson.

This is a convenient manual for reference, containing in moderate compass the physiological and therapeutical effects of all remedies in use. It is arranged alphabetically and in parallel columns, the physiological action being given on one side and the therapeutical on the other. Botanical and pharmaceutical details are omitted. An introductory chapter on rules for prescribing, and one on the classes of remedies, with an index of diseases and their

various and appropriate remedies, complete a volume that will be a useful reference book for the student and busy practitioner who have not the time to peruse the larger systematic treatises of Stillé or Wood. The author is well known as a careful scientific and practical investigator of the actions of medicines in health and disease, and he gives us concisely in this book the result of his labours, together with that of other workers in the same field. Dr. Woodbury has adapted it to the U. S. pharmacopœia, and has made such additions of new remedies, &c., as the advance of this branch of medical science, and the requirements of the American medical student seemed to demand. Dr. Farquharson favours the writing of prescriptions in English.

EDINBURGH MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

—The third meeting of the fifteenth session was held on the 16th ult.; Dr. Gillespie, President, in the chair.—Professor Grainger Stewart exhibited four patients illustrating in a marked degree the varying amount of Tendon Irritability in different forms of Paralysis. Case 1, a little boy suffering from hemiplegia. Tapping ligamentum patellæ of the healthy joint with a percussion-hammer, the foot was jerked forward; on the affected side, movements more violent. The normal irritability was wholly lost in locomotor ataxy, and this was one of the earliest and most reliable signs of the disease. Case 2, locomotor ataxy; absolutely no response to tapping the patellar tendon. Ordinary reflex movements not impaired. Case 3, with some ataxic features, but showing excessive tendon-irritability. Case 4, well-marked ataxy; no irritability of tendon.

MODE OF TREATMENT OF VARICES.—Dr. Gabrielle, of the Italian Navy, recommends the following means: Apply over the varicose cord, throughout its whole extent, a very thin strip of lead, the thickness of which should not exceed a millimetre ($\frac{1}{2}$ a line) and keep it in place by means of a roller bandage; keep it on night and day for ten days, unless the patient cannot tolerate it during the day, in which case apply it only during the night and when he is not obliged to walk. The cure will often be complete after ten days' application.—*Courrier Médical.*