

system, a thorough knowledge of the normal anatomy of the tissues affected is, of course, essential to the student of pathological anatomy, who will appreciate the facility afforded by the treatise of M. Fere, as it contains much information hitherto scattered through the works of various writers, and involving much time and labor to be utilized.

*Bright's Disease and Allied Affections of the Kidneys.* By CHARLES W. PURDY, M.D. Queen's University, Professor of Genito-Urinary and Renal Diseases in the Chicago Polyclinic, etc. 8vo., 288 pages, with 18 illustrations. Cloth, \$2. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co., 1886.

We take great pleasure in referring to this work, as one of merit and originality written by a native of Canada and a graduate of a Canadian University.

The author, although well versed in the pathological anatomy of these affections, seems to have studied them principally from a clinical standpoint. For this reason his work will be of greater use to practitioners.

It is a matter of great interest, and no doubt also of importance, to thoroughly comprehend the various divisions made by pathologists in describing the morbid anatomy of the kidney, but it is impossible for the general practitioner to remember them, and impossible also for him to make so accurate a diagnosis during life. The author has, in our opinion, acted wisely in classifying the diseases of the kidneys in such a way as to be easily comprehended by the practitioner, and thus more useful at the bedside of the patient.

The book opens with two long chapters, the first on Albuminuria, and the second on Uræmia. These subjects are treated in a very exhaustive manner. In the first chapter he distinguishes renal from other forms of albuminuria, and gives the following four causes for the renal variety: (1) Alterations in the blood pressure, (2) Changes in the vascular tunics, (3) Degeneration of the renal epithelium, (4) Alteration in the composition of the blood.

He gives as the most reliable tests for albumen, the ferro-cyanic and nitric (Helliers).

Some excellent suggestions are made under

the head of Hygienic Treatment of Albuminuria.

In treating of the cause of uræmia, the author comes to the following conclusion:—"In the light of what is known, then, the only conclusions that seem justifiable are that the cause of uræmia lies in the failure of the kidneys to excrete the urine in part or in whole, or in its primary elements, and that these either act as toxic agents on the system, or generate some new and, at present, unknown agent, (through conditions resulting from their accumulation), which acts as a poison on the organism evoking the symptoms which we term uræmic."

The author in the third chapter commences the organic diseases of the kidneys by taking up acute nephritis, which is followed by chronic nephritis, cirrhosis of the kidney, scarlatinal nephritis, puerperal nephritis, lardaceous degeneration of the kidneys, and cyanotic induration of the kidney.

The book is written in an excellent style, and will be read with profit by practitioners.

---

### Personal.

Dr. Rosebrugh, of Hamilton, has also sailed for Europe. He will attend the annual meeting of the British Medical Society, and the British Gynæcological Society, of which he was very recently elected a Fellow.

We hear that Dr. Ralph Leslie, of the University of Toronto, Canada, and St. Thomas Hospital, London, has been decorated with the Order of Leopold by the King of the Belgians, for his services on the Upper Congo.—*British Medical Journal.*

---

### Miscellaneous.

Dr. Newman, in a paper read before the Paris Biological Society, has shown that the parasite of the Favus found on the neck and head of fowls, is the *Achorion Schönleinii*, identical with that of Favus in man.

In the children's department at the University Hospital of Berlin there is a collection of 300 nursing bottles of various sizes and shapes, each provided with an indiarubber tube, which