

dragged in by machinery, is introduced to avert the "absolute irresponsibility" that would flow from the somatic view. Whereas had the author rightly understood the doctrine he attempts to controvert he would have perceived that his machinery was unnecessary.

A definition of insanity is given:—"A DISEASED OR DISORDERED CONDITION OR MALFORMATION OF THE PHYSICAL ORGANS THROUGH WHICH THE MIND RECEIVES IMPRESSIONS, OR MANIFESTS ITS OPERATIONS, BY WHICH THE WILL AND JUDGMENT ARE IMPAIRED AND THE CONDUCT RENDERED IRRATIONAL. And as a corollary we offer: *Insanity being the result of physical disease, IT IS A MATTER OF FACT to be determined by medical experts NOT A MATTER OF LAW to be decided by legal tests and maxims.*"

In the chapter on experts, it is suggested that superintendents of asylums and assistant superintendents should, as a condition of appointment, pass an examination in law, medicine, and psychology before a specially constituted Board. That only such men after a certain number of years' experience should act as experts in insanity trials, and that it should be part of their duty to do so without payment and only on behalf of the Court; that the fact of insanity should be held to be proved by the testimony of the expert without being subject to legal tests.

The appendix contains an array of judges' opinions; from which it will be seen that there is hardly a theory of insanity that has not been upheld by some luminary of justice.

The size of the book is somewhat disproportionate to the amount of matter contained therein. If the type and the spaces between the lines were reduced to ordinary dimensions the volume would be smaller by one half. Italics and capitals are used with a frequency, not only far from elegant, but to an extent which almost deprives them of emphasis.

W. R. H.

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*Clinical Lectures on Mental Diseases.* By T. S. CLOUSTON, M.D., F.R.C.P.Ed. J. and A. Churchill, London:

We shall defer till our next number a full review of this most important book, and at the present time desire only to call the attention of our readers to the fact that an undoubtedly good book has appeared bearing the characters of a clinical guide. It is easier in many respects to write a series of clinical lectures than to prepare a manual, and in

many ways the writer of the former has the pleasanter task, as he is bound by no hard and fast lines, and can divide his subject as he pleases.

Dr. Clouston has been a lecturer on disorders of the mind for years, and has won a high position from his eminently practical and useful teaching; and both old students at Edinburgh and others will be glad to have so pleasantly placed before them the ripe experience of a practised teacher.

The book is handy in shape, clear in type, pleasant in style, and characteristic of the author. It consists of nineteen lectures, which range from the clinical study of "mental diseases" to the legal and social relationship of both patient and doctor.

We shall later discuss the subjects handled and the general divisions followed. And we shall not be altogether satisfied with the introduction of new terms, which cannot be considered as final expressions of the knowledge of insanity, and add, we think, still more to the burdens of psychological terminology. In the meantime, we trust our readers will study the book and compare their judgment with ours.

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*The Extra Pharmacopœia of Unofficial Drugs and Chemical and Pharmaceutical Preparations.* By WILLIAM MARTINDALE, F.C.S. *With References to their Use Abstracted from the Medical Journals and a Therapeutic Index of Diseases and Symptoms.* By W. WYNN WESTCOTT, M.B. 2nd Ed. London: H. K. Lewis, 1884.

One of the chief features of the progress of medicine in recent years has been the advance in therapeutics. Not merely is there a constant in-pour of new drugs, but owing to experimental investigation, their actions are more precisely known than were the actions of the most frequently used medicines twenty years ago. To those who wish for a very concise account of what has been done of late in this department the little book before us is a treasure.

The arrangement is alphabetical. All the new drugs and nearly all the old ones are to be found with terse statements of pharmaceutical and medicinal properties and non-official formulæ. The very brief abstracts from medical journals, which represent an enormous amount of work, are well done, and are valuable besides for reference.

The first edition was exhausted in a few weeks. We advise all our readers to possess themselves of a copy.