

Erster Nachtrag zur Bibliographie des Modernen Hypnotismus.
von MAX DESSOIR. Berlin, 1890, pp. 44.

This pamphlet is an excellent specimen of the German determination to arrive at the truth and the whole truth—at least so far as it can be learnt from books. It is the first supplement to a “Bibliography of Modern Hypnotism” published two years previously (1888), a very accurate and comprehensive catalogue of the very widely scattered books, pamphlets, and articles on a very difficult subject which especially needs such a help to its study, for the information on which the ultimate judgments must be based is in part imperfect as yet, and singularly conflicting in some particulars, owing, in a large part, to want of intercommunication between the observers. The canons of observation and experiment are far from being universally accepted; the matter is sometimes treated as a part of physiology and sometimes as a curious corner of psychology. The text books, which are all of foreign origin, are almost all based on short experience; the opinions on this side and that of any question in debate are often expressed with a confidence which would probably be very much qualified if there were more known of other people’s results. The first part was dated April, 1888, and included 812 entries from the writings of 481 authors comprising many books and pamphlets, and also some articles from 207 periodicals published all over the world from Naples to Norway, from Athens to Japan. And to these in the first supplement, which is only two years later in date, it has been found necessary to add 382 more books and articles, to include 186 new authors (making in all a total of 667 men, mostly of the medical profession, writing seriously upon it), and to give references to 47 periodicals besides those that had been mentioned before.

The mass of references in this first supplement is to the publications of the years 1888 and 1889, which, in all, amount to 213 and 174 respectively; and these dry facts and patient records offer a substantial and solid basis for the statement often made and sometimes contradicted that the European, and to a less extent the English world, both scientific and medical, is beginning to take some serious interest in hypnotism and the allied phenomena. Of all the entries, both in the original list and in this supplement, viz., 1,194, rather more than half are in the French language (612), a

small proportion of which are written in Belgium, Switzerland, Russia, etc.; in German, 172; in English, 148 (of which 57 are American); in Italian, 120. The book is singularly accurate and painstaking, there is hardly a misprint to be found in the thirteen languages in which its references are made. Still it would be almost incredible if in such a task there were not one or two trifles more to add, such as an article by Senator (1880), by Bengier (1880), Kaane (1885), Gamgee (1878), and Gasquet (1887). All the works of Braid (1843-50), and all but one of Esdaile (1843-56) have apparently been deliberately omitted along with Elliotson's as belonging to a hypnotism that was not modern enough; but as the case of amputation of the leg under hypnotism by Topham and Ward, which dates from 1842, is quoted, we should have thought it wiser to have inserted the remarkable publications of some of the best known pioneers along with these works of 667 of their followers.

A. T. MYERS.

Flushing and Morbid Blushing. By HARRY CAMPBELL, M.D.
Published by H. K. Lewis, London, 1890, p. 270.

This monograph has the justification that no other has appeared on this subject since that of Burgess in 1824.

The author lays stress on the assertion that the dermic papillæ, sebaceous glands, sweat glands, and hair follicles have each a distinct vaso-motor system capable of being "independently affected." He also points out the close relation of the "flush storm" to the epileptic and hysteric aura.

The morbid phenomena of flushing and blushing the author very correctly regards as merely symptoms of general nervous defect, and bases his treatment on this.

His records of these abnormal manifestations are very numerous, bear evidence of very careful observation, and are very systematically arranged.

The work is characterized by its thoughtfulness, suggestiveness, and evidence of much acquaintance with medical literature. It is a valuable addition to symptomatic medicine.