

results attained by Starr are given in a useful table of the localization of function in the different segments of the cord, and throughout the work we are made acquainted with the effects of lesions of the various parts of the central nervous system. The book is well got up, printed on good paper, and in clear type, and the diagrams are numerous and well selected. The phraseology is forcible, but we trust that such modes of expressing position as "dorsad of," "further caudad," and "ventrad into" will never commend themselves to English readers on this side of the Atlantic.

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*An Illustrated Encyclopædic Medical Dictionary: Technical Terms in Medicine and the Collateral Sciences in the Latin, English, French, and German Languages.* By FRANK P. FOSTER, M.D., Editor of the "New York Medical Journal." New York: D. Appleton and Co. 1890.

The Editor expresses the hope in his Preface that this work will commend itself to the medical profession. Speaking for the first two volumes which have now appeared, we have no hesitation in saying that the Editor's hope has been amply fulfilled.

The labour bestowed on this work must have been enormous. The information it contains is trustworthy, and covers a most extensive range of subjects. The illustrations are excellent.

We recommend every public library, and especially medical libraries, to possess themselves of this remarkable dictionary. For private individuals it will form a library in itself. We shall look with great interest to succeeding volumes, and hope that the appreciation of the medical profession and the public for the work will encourage the Editor to proceed in the same praiseworthy manner to the end.

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*Why Does Man Exist?* By ARTHUR JOHN BELL. Isbister, London. 1890.

The book is described as the continuation and conclusion of a preceding work, entitled, "Whence Comes Man?" already noticed in this Journal.

A systematic analysis of the present work would require much space and time. The key-stone of the elaborate ideal arch, erected by the author, is represented at page 175 in

the sentence that "every cell is capable of being conscious and that evolution is fundamentally psychological."

This thesis is supported by very numerous and lengthy quotations from many of the most recent writers on biology; but it is singular that a writer who inscribes on his title-page "try all things, hold fast that which is good," should have omitted to notice the antagonistic conclusions of Pfeffer, Verworn, and others.

The germ-cell, the author assumes, becomes "the parent of the other cells" in a multicellular organism, which last is really a "cell patriarchy." Then follow chapters discussing: "Where is the patriarch cell situated?" "Every cell has a will of its own;" "Wills of child egos subordinated to will of patriarch ego;" "Man's moral relations to his child egos;" and, lastly, "The moral relations between God and man." These indicate, better than any analysis, the character and line of the inquiry.

However defective the author's modes of investigation may be considered, his work demands admiration for the extent of his reading and for the ingenuity of his theories. It were a disagreeable and uncongenial task to condemn the result of so much labour and reflection.

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*Over the Teacups.* By the Author of the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table." London: Sampson Low, Marston and Co. 1890.

Needless to say that a book from the pen and brain of Oliver Wendell Holmes is an acquisition to our literature, and that it adds to the works which charm and instruct all, especially the medico-psychological reader. We would, in commending the last product of our honoured *confrère*, draw attention to the remarkable coincidences which he records, and which must always possess an interest whatever their explanation may be. We will not anticipate the pleasure our readers will receive in reading "Over the Teacups" by quotations, but would strongly advise all to add it to their library. It will not be long, we hope, before the author, who has so many warm friends in this country, makes us once more his debtors for the intellectual enjoyment he affords us. We would press upon him that it is as true now as in the days of Cicero: *Senectus non impedit quominus literarum studia teneamus usque ad ultimum tempus senectutis.*