

their most extraordinary powers seem to be those of recognising members of the same species and of the same hillock when they have been separated for long periods of time, and what is more astonishing, and as surprising as the possession of the sense of direction, is the fact that certain ants seem to have the power of recognising the offspring from their own ant-hill, though these were removed before they had been hatched, being able to recognise as relations, young that were removed from the hill in the larval or pupal stage.

Habits peculiar to certain species.—Under this heading we have consideration of domestic, agricultural, and social habits, such as the cutting and shaping of leaves, harvesting (about which so many contradictory opinions have been expressed), the honey-making ants, military ants, and after this the subject of ants is concluded with a general summary of the intelligence of the various species.

From the above it will be seen how exhaustively the subject is treated. After ants, bees and wasps are considered, then spiders, beetles, crabs and lobsters, and fish. The subjects of snake-charming and the intelligence of birds are investigated. We were rather surprised to find the section on the intelligence of birds not so full as we had expected. The intelligence of mammalia is next discoursed upon, again somewhat briefly.

We suppose Romanes is right in spending most care and attention on those classes which are lowest down in the scale of life. The reading of this book has been attended with such genuine pleasure and relaxation, that in ending our review we would suggest that all the superintendents of asylums who have not read it should seize an early opportunity of doing so.

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*Shackles of an Old Love.* By MARA (Mrs. Wilkin).

We are not in the habit generally in this Journal of noticing light literature, but this book, published by Allen and Co., was introduced to our notice from the fact that it describes asylum life, and to a certain extent an asylum physician and superintendent.

The book itself is full of most of the vices of the modern novel. It has the advantage, however, of being only in one volume, and not three. The style is stilted, slangy, and weak. The authoress, having a smattering of several European, one or more Eastern, and one ancient language, introduces words or phrases from these languages in the most distracting way, so

that without warning you may come upon quotations from five languages in one page—quotations that render no advantage whatever by their presence.

We do not intend to give the plot, but we may say that the superintendent of the asylum—a private asylum, by the way—Dr. Renfrewshire, is a man of the most astonishing capacity for general and special work, and also has a great power for social enjoyment as well. He is foolish enough, however, to fall in love with and marry one of his patients, who for a time was suffering either from partial dementia or melancholy with stupor. Some of the descriptions of asylum life are extremely good, and one can only understand the truthfulness of the description on the ground that the authoress must have some intimate knowledge of the inside of an asylum. One other point of interest in the novel is the terrible picture that is drawn of one of the characters who had become for a time habituated to narcotics, and if this novel has the effect of frightening any of the many ladies of fashion who are in the habit of getting rest by means of chloral or morphia, it will have done good. In leaving it, we would say that if any one has patience to get through the book it may form a rather amusing distraction for a day.

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*Clinical Lectures on Diseases of the Nervous System.* By THOMAS BUZZARD, M.D., Lond. London: J. and A. Churchill, 1882.

We welcome these lectures as the outcome of Dr. Buzzard's long and conscientious study of the diseases of the nervous system. They form a very valuable contribution to the scientific understanding of these affections, one which combines the practical and the theoretic in the way which is most valuable and useful to the practitioner. To all who desire to be in possession of recent knowledge bearing on the diagnosis of diseases of the spinal cord, &c., illustrated by cases, Dr. Buzzard's work will be of essential service. The signification of symptoms is either satisfactorily explained, or the difficulties are stated, and the most probable solution is suggested without being dogmatically asserted. We shall not attempt an analysis of this book, but as an illustration of its practical character, shall take one symptom, the absence of the patellar tendon-reflex.

Dr. Buzzard warns the reader against supposing that this is confined to cases of tabes, and lays down the condition on which it rests, namely, any destructive lesion of the cord at