

readers will peruse them in their entirety, although the chief use of such an encyclopædia on the shelves of asylum libraries must be to enable us to keep in touch with the great body of modern medicine and surgery in the midst of our ordinary avocations. To elucidate cases of difficulty and as a guide in the maze of contending opinions the *Encyclopædia Medica* will prove invaluable.

La Démence précoce. Par le Dr. G. DENY et P. ROY. Paris : Baillière et Fils, 1903. Pp. 96 ; eleven plates. Price 1.50 fr.

This little book gives an admirable *résumé* of the subject, and it forms a volume of that practical series *Les Actualités Médicales*. Dementia præcox is now generally recognised as a definite clinical group of mental diseases, and the authors treat of the group under three headings : (1) the form of hebephrenia or mania ; (2) the form of katatonia or stupor ; (3) the form of paranoia.

The authors recognise the first form as the most common, affecting the character, the moral sentiments, and the intellect generally. The clinical pictures are presented with much skill and sincerity, and the illustrations are very helpful and characteristic. Following the usual clear-headed methods of French writers, the whole of the questions relative to the disorders considered are worked out precisely and briefly—yet not so briefly as to obscure the authors' meaning. They confirm previous observers in stating that dementia præcox is slightly more common in the male sex, and that they find about 70 *per cent.* of the cases have an hereditary history of insanity. The results of organotherapy would seem to leave the authors in doubt as to its efficacy. They note that passive gymnastics are indicated in katatonia, and lay stress on moral influences. We commend this work as a concise history and practical handbook in relation to this group of maladies.

Part III.—Epitome of Current Literature.

1. Anthropology.

Anthropometric Variations due to Sex and Height [*L'homme moyen à Paris*]. (*Bull. Soc. d'Anth. de Paris*, 1902, fasc. 4.) Papillault, G.

THE appearance of this valuable memoir can be only briefly noted. It is one of the most important contributions to an exact knowledge of the body—the proportions of head, trunk, and limbs—which has been made during recent years. Dr. Papillault, who belongs to the school of Manouvrier, and is a teacher at the Paris Laboratory of Anthropology,