

Our space will not allow of more than a brief notice of this book, which we commend to our readers as interesting, well arranged, and free from prejudice. It forms a volume of the "Bibliothèque Scientifique Contemporaine."

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*The Health of Nations: A Review of the Works of Edwin Chadwick, with a Biographical Dissertation.* By BENJAMIN WARD RICHARDSON. Two vols. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1887.

Dr. Richardson is to be congratulated on having completed this laborious undertaking. The name of Edwin Chadwick has been for so long a household word that it is difficult to credit that he is still living, and to believe in the identity of the author of so many articles, extending over the greater part of the century.

To Mr. Chadwick the medical psychologist must be grateful, because whatever tends to improve the health of a nation is calculated to diminish the risks to the development of mental diseases. Under the head of "The Physiological Limits of Mental Labour" (Chap. IV.) and "The Psychological Limits of Mental Labour" (Chap. V.), Mr. Chadwick's insistence upon correct principles is lucidly set forth, and the reader will peruse with interest a letter from him to Professor Owen, and another from Owen to Chadwick, upon the latter, the psychological aspect of the subject. They deserve wide circulation even now, and no doubt had a salutary effect at the time they appeared in disseminating wholesome views on the limits of mental labour, though it is lamentable to think how many have turned a deaf ear to these notes of warning.

It would carry us too far to attempt to analyse the contents of these valuable volumes, which will remain not only a permanent monument to the wisdom and practical sagacity of Mr. Chadwick, but also to the industry, skill, and loving labour of his friend, the editor and biographer. The work will always be valuable for reference, and every medical man whose ken extends upon the narrow horizon of his own selfish interests would do wisely to possess himself of these volumes. No library ought to be without them.

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