

and the recent investigations of Oppenheim and Hoppe are in agreement with those of Golgi, Klebs, and Greppin, which refer the symptoms to a miliary cortical and subcortical encephalitis.

A useful appendix giving an analysis of 73 fatal cases of chorea, in tabular form, concludes this excellent treatise.

Lunacy Law for Medical Men. By CHARLES MERCIER, M.B.
London: J. & A. Churchill. 1894.

In the preface to this work the author states: "Endeavour has been made to give in this book clear information on every point of lunacy law on which a practitioner of medicine is likely to be consulted, as well as upon every point that he will have to consider in his own dealings with insane persons."

Now one of the first points that will in all probability arise, will be when a medical man is called upon to examine and certify an alleged lunatic, not a pauper, with the object of having him placed under care and treatment; and, as these cases are by no means very frequent in general practice, the practitioner will expect to find his duty made clear to him, and the proper steps to be taken set forth in this little volume. More condensation would have been an improvement, for there is a tendency to overload the text by reference to cases, so that, for instance, the busy practitioner will find he has to read through six pages of matter under the head of "Medical Certificates" before he finds the paragraph pointing out that the examination upon which he bases his certificate must be made within a period of seven clear days before the presentation of the petition. In dealing with the question of "urgency orders" this difficulty of finding the time allowed between the examination of the patient and signing the necessary certificate again occurs, as under the head of "Urgency Orders" there are eight pages (pp. 41 to 48), but the practitioner having waded through them has to turn to p. 80 to find that he must have personally examined the patient not more than two clear days before the reception of the patient.

In the index we find no mention of "single patients," but under "Person having charge of Lunatic" (pp. 62, 69, 70) the multifarious duties of those who take lunatics into unlicensed houses for profit are stated. The section of the

Act forbidding the reception of more than one certified patient into an unlicensed house is given, but we find no mention of the fact that the Commissioners can, if they think fit, allow more than one certified patient to be received into the same house.

Frequent reference is made to the rules of the Commissioners in Lunacy which they are empowered to make by the Act of 1891; and, as these rules are as binding as the Act itself, it seems to us that no book on lunacy law for the use of medical men can be complete without them. We are well aware that it is by no means an easy task to condense an Act of Parliament, but when the condensed form is mixed up with references, quotations from cases, and general rules for guidance, it is likely to become somewhat distracting for the unfortunate reader to find what he wants.

Imagination in Dreams and their Study. By FREDERICK GREENWOOD. London: John Lane. 1894.

The study of dreams, which had a supernatural significance in days of old and has acquired a new scientific significance within recent years, is a branch of psychological investigation presenting many points of interest to the psychiatrist. Not only do dreams occasionally play an important part in the evolution of insanity, but they are themselves a normal counterpart of insanity. We may frequently observe in our dreams the same struggle with an absurdity, the same eventual reconciliation with it, which we may watch in the victim of a systematized delusion spread over many years. In our sane dreams we are brought into the same condition of inhibited higher centres and diminished responsibility which we witness in the waking life of the insane.

In Germany under Wundt's inspiration, and in America under Stanley Hall's, several detailed and precise studies of dream phenomena have been published, which are of considerable value. In England also a few interesting, though too generalized, studies have appeared from time to time. Mr. Greenwood's little volume—consisting of two essays with appendices—contains his own observations on himself (a vivid and prolific dreamer) and on others, together with an appeal for the serious scientific study of dreams. For the sake of these observations, and as a stimulus to investiga-