

is heightened in many cases by eccentric clothing and untrimmed hair, just as the theatre insists on straws as the recognised head-gear for Ophelia. These photographic representations are of comparatively little use, while no standard of size is fixed. It is important, too, that there should be a full-face and profile representation for each case.

La Cause Première d'Après les Données Expérimentales. Par EMILE FERRIÈRE. Paris: Alcan, 1897. Pp. 462. Price 3fr. 50.

This volume is mainly a somewhat dry and bald account of the "plan of creation" in the vegetable and animal kingdoms, set in a metaphysical frame. The author has mostly gone for his facts to evolutionary authors of authority, and has sought inspiration in Claude Bernard's *Introduction à la Médecine Expérimentale*, "the real gospel of contemporary science." The parade of metaphysical phraseology in the early and concluding chapters of the book is probably due to the fact that the book is largely intended for the instruction of "professional philosophers" who, it appears, are helpless and intimidated by the authority of science, and are seeking for light, which, the author seems to assume, they will gladly recognise in this second-hand summary. The exact value and usefulness of the book may thus be left to the "professional philosophers" themselves to determine.

PART III.—PSYCHOLOGICAL RETROSPECT.

THERAPEUTIC RETROSPECT.

By Harrington Sainsbury, M.D.

Naturally the animal extracts are at the present moment very prominent in the domain of therapeutics, and as naturally the thyroid extract, the powers of which have been so amply demonstrated in myxœdema and cretinism, comes in for special consideration. To the readers of this Journal the subject must have considerable interest, not only because the affections just mentioned have an interesting psychological aspect, but also because the thyroid extract has been employed in various mental affections, with, it is claimed, encouraging results.

Admitting the activity of thyroid préparations, the next step has been to determine if possible the nature of the active principles contained in the gland, and upon this subject several investigators are at the present moment at work.

E. Baumann, in 1895, discovered the presence of iodine in the thyroid gland (see Merck's Annual Report, 1897). The iodine is in organic combination, and Baumann has been able to separate an organic iodine compound, to which he has given the name of