

rise from the ground and settle again like a feather, no one touching it; he has seen people cured of nervous pains and affections by another's *silent will* at the distance of a large drawing room; he has seen also the organs of the brain brought one after another into activity by mere touch on the surface, under circumstances in which suggestion or thought-reading was impossible; and he has seen thought-reading in which a mesmerised person who could not see, yet described all that was seen by another, the mesmeriser. The numbers of three watches, consisting of five figures each, were told consecutively.

Whatever may be thought of Mr. Bray's views on these and other matters, no one who reads his books will question his earnestness, the sincerity of his convictions, and the outspoken candour with which he expresses them.

A Treatise on the Medical Jurisprudence of Insanity. By J. RAY, M.D. Fifth Edition, with additions. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. 1871.

We have received the fifth edition of Dr. Ray's valuable treatise on the Medical Jurisprudence of Insanity, the first edition of which appeared thirty-three years ago. A work which has lived and flourished during that length of time, and has been so well appreciated both in America and in this country, requires no further testimony of its worth. In the additions to the present edition the author has availed himself of some of the latest accessions to our knowledge, and so has maintained the character of his book as a standard treatise. If we were to pass any criticism upon it, we should be disposed to say that it is perhaps too much inspired of the psychological spirit of the time of Hoffbauer and Georget, and too little inspired by the positive scientific spirit of more recent investigations. The important researches of Griesinger into the relations of mental to other disorders of the nervous system, of Skae into the relations of mental to other bodily disorders, and of Morel, Moreau, and others into the hereditary connections between nervous diseases—researches which are producing a sort of revolution in our mode of looking at the varieties of mental derangement—have not received their due appreciation from the author. In fact, when we say that we have not observed any mention of the names of

these distinguished investigators, or of the work which they have done, we have said enough to shew that there is yet room for further additions and improvements in the sixth edition, which we hope the author may live to publish, and those of our readers, who are not weary of the sun, may live to see.

The Practice in Lunacy under Commissions and Inquisitions, with Notes of Cases and Recent Decisions; an Appendix containing Forms and Costs of Proceedings, the Statute and General Orders; also an Index and Schedule of Cases; the Fifth Edition, adapted, with considerable additions, to the Provisions of the Lunacy Regulation Acts, 1853 and 1862.
By JOSEPH ELMER, of the Office of the Masters in Lunacy.
London: Stevens and Sons, 1872, pp. 487.

This is a very useful manual for all interested in the care and treatment of the so-called Chancery lunatics, and contains a mass of well arranged information regarding every detail of the practice in lunacy of the Court of Chancery. We strongly advise every member of this Association, who may have the care of Chancery lunatics, or be likely to be consulted regarding the subject of commissions in lunacy, to place a copy of this most useful compilation on his shelves. It has a complete index and a table of contents, and is, altogether, put together in a business-like manner, and reflects great credit on the legal knowledge and industry of the author.

PART III.—PSYCHOLOGICAL RETROSPECT.

American Psychological Literature.

By T. W. McDOWALL, M.D., Assistant Physician, Inverness District Asylum.

I. *American Journal of Insanity*, Vol. xxvii., July, 1870, to April, 1871.

This volume contains several good articles and notices of English and French books.

Vol. xxviii., July to October, 1871.

July, 1871. No. 1.—“Pathological Anatomy,” by S. Oakley Vanderpoel, A.M., M.D.; “The Physiological Action and Therapeutic Use of Chloral,” by J. B. Andrews, Assistant Physician, New York State Lunatic Asylum; “Insanity in Relation to Law,” by Henry Landor, M.D., Superintendent of London Asylum, Ontario; “In-

VOL. XVIII.

9