

legislation for the insane which has been adopted in France. The work is a manual, and can be recommended as clear in its style, methodical in arrangement, and of practical utility.

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*London (Ancient and Modern) from the Sanitary and Medical Point of View.* By G. V. POORE, M.D., F.R.C.P. Cassell and Co., 1889.

We take the earliest opportunity of drawing the attention of the readers of this Journal to Dr. Poore's little book on ancient and modern London, which is described from a sanitary and medical point of view. It contains an account of the College of Physicians, which is well told. An engraving of Linacre's house, taken from a print in the "Gold-headed Cane," is of interest, seeing that he was the founder and the first President of the College. A section on the "Severance of Medicine and Surgery" brings into clear relief this important historic point. On the other hand, the physicians were an outgrowth from the priests. If we are not mistaken, the evidence of this union—the granting of the degree of M.D. by the Archbishop of Canterbury—was illustrated by the doctorate of Willis, the clerical physician of George III. when insane. On the other hand, surgeons were originally barbers, who in the course of time drew teeth from the mouth, and blood from the arm. In 1308 the London barbers were incorporated into a guild, and in 1460 the Guild of the Barber-Surgeons was a City Livery Company. An Act passed early in the reign of Henry VIII., for appointing physicians and surgeons, contained a preamble in which the science and cunning of physic and surgery are spoken of as being exercised by a great multitude of ignorant persons, of whom the greater part have no manner of insight into the same, nor in any other kind of learning. They are represented as using sorcery and witchcraft, to the high displeasure of God, great infamy to the faculty, and the grievous hurt, damage, and destruction of many of the King's liege people. It was provided that "all practising medicine and surgery should be previously examined, approved, and admitted by the Bishop of London or the Dean of St. Paul's, London, or for the country by the Bishop of the Diocese, who shall call to his aid for this purpose four doctors of physics, and for surgery other expert persons in that faculty." This Act must have exercised a beneficial effect. Dr. Poore has given only a brief reference to Bethlem Hospital.