

of Magnan alone—so sound and oft-quoted an author—would be a most useful person. Dr. Darin, like every one else, makes full use of him and of other writers, and furnishes a considerable bibliography.

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*Les Troubles auditifs dans les Maladies nerveuses.* Par le Dr. F. J. COLLET. Paris: Masson et Cie., Éditeurs. Pp. 182. Price 2 fr. 50 c.

While the condition of the eyes is usually described in the notes of cases of nervous diseases, it is quite an exception to find any reference to the state of the ears and hearing; and one of the reasons which have led to the publication of this small work is to collect a number of positive observations in which the condition of the auditory organs has been a help in diagnosis, and to show that a systematic examination of these organs may be of great importance in certain obscure cases. Moreover, by an analysis of clinical cases, the author is able to deduce certain points of great interest in connection with the bulbar and cortical acoustic tracts.

One of the reasons probably why hearing is not more generally tested in nervous cases is the time required for the investigation; no one method of diagnosis is sufficient, and it is only by a combination of various tests (*e. g.* Weber, Rinne, &c.) that we can conclude that an affection of hearing is dependent on disease of the middle ear or the internal ear, for instance; while the diagnosis between a lesion of the internal ear or of the auditory nerve itself is often not practicable.

The main bulk of the book is devoted to a consideration of the auditory signs and symptoms which are usually, or may be, associated with the various nervous diseases (hydrocephalus, cerebral tumour, meningitis, softening of the brain, tabes, &c.). The general effects of cerebral tumours on the auditory nerves are dealt with in an interesting manner in Chapter 3; and in Chapter 4 is discussed the important question of the function of the corpora quadrigemina. The conclusions deduced from an analysis of cases recorded in this connection are "that the posterior corpora quadrigemina act as a relay along the acoustic tract, and that at this level the decussation of the eighth pair of cranial nerves is already completely accomplished."

In Chapter 6 we find an interesting confirmation of Helm-

holtz's theory of audition based on the clinical observation of cases of meningitis affecting the labyrinth.

Chapter 8, "Auditory troubles in tabes," is another important chapter. It is well to remember here that chronic dry catarrh is frequently present in locomotor ataxy, and has no doubt often been mistaken for true nerve deafness. The possibility of the presence of an anatomical substratum to explain the occurrence of hallucinations of hearing in these cases is wisely emphasised. From the association of sensory and trophic lesions of the face with chronic dry aural catarrh in tabes one is led to conclude that the aural lesions are due to some affection of the fifth nerve; Gellé and Laborde's researches are of great interest in this relation.

In Chapter 10 there is a discussion of the question of a neuro-paralytic otitis media, analogous to neuro-paralytic keratitis, and arising like it from some lesion of the fifth nerve.

In the chapter on neurosis we find an account of the auditory troubles in hysteria, epilepsy, megrim, &c.

Altogether Dr. Collet's little book is a useful addition to that valuable series of monographs, the 'Encyclopédie scientifique des aide-mémoire.'

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*La Responsabilité médicale ; Secret médical, Déclarations de Naissance ; Inhumations ; Expertises médico-légales.*  
Par P. BROUARDEL. Paris : Librairie J. B. Baillière et fils, 1898. Pp. 456. Pr. 9 fr.

Professor Brouardel has done well to publish this collection of lectures on medical jurisprudence to the Paris students in book form. The delicate question of medical responsibility, considered from the point of view of French law and opinion, is handled in a fascinating manner by an eminent authority, and cannot fail to be interesting to medical men, whatever may be their nationality, and whatever may be their varying legal responsibilities on this subject.

With the evolution of society the medical man's duties become more onerous, and the difficulties of practice increase; and it is difficult to realise, in reading Professor Brouardel's introductory remarks concerning the antagonism between public opinion and medical opinion, the abuse of hospitals and medical aid societies, the overcrowding of the medical profession, with its attendant evils of advertising, touting,