

*The Anatomy of the Central Nervous Organs, in Health and Disease.* By Dr. HEINRICH OBERSTEINER. Translated by Alex. Hill, M.D. London: C. Griffin and Co. 1890.

The Viennese Professor's work is one of great care, and the result of long and accurate observation. The translator deserves the thanks of all English students of brain and cord structure for having prepared so excellent a translation of this admirable book. As to the illustrations, it is impossible to speak too highly of them. The plan of giving a skeleton outline of the various structures adds greatly to the facility of understanding the anatomy of the part described.

Such a work as this brings home to one the enormous progress made in the modes of examining and the manner of illustrating the tissues of the organs of which the nervous system is composed. This handy volume before long will, we doubt not, have a large circulation; it certainly merits it.

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*The National Medical Dictionary.* By JOHN S. BILLINGS, A.M., M.D., LL.D., D.C.L. Oxon. Edin. and London: Young J. Pentland. 1890.

*A New Medical Dictionary.* By GEORGE M. GOULD, B.A., M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1890.

*Terminologia Medica Polyglotta, ou Dictionnaire International de Termes.* By Dr. THEODORE MAXWELL. London: J and A. Churchill. 1890.

This is the age of Dictionaries. The mass of knowledge to be acquired and the need of constant reference render them absolutely necessary.

No one can possibly have greater opportunities at his command than Dr. Billings, of Washington, who, with a large staff of assistant-editors, has prepared the work at the head of this notice. A very large addition has been made to the number of medical terms contained in the completed dictionaries now in use. The definitions are doubtless brief, but they are as full as can be looked for in a dictionary of this size, which does not profess to be an encyclopædia. It will no doubt be added to every public library, and be eagerly bought by a large number of private individuals in Great Britain as well as in America.

The second on the list includes all the words and phrases

used in medicine, with their proper pronunciation and definition. The author, Dr. Gould, is the ophthalmic surgeon to the Philadelphia Hospital, and Clinical Chief of the Ophthalmological Department, German Hospital, in the same city. Elaborate tables of bacilli, etc., as well as of weights and measures, and thermometers, with much other useful information, carefully classified, are given. Useless and obsolete words are eliminated, and words created during the past decade are added. There is a useful table of prefixes and suffixes. We have found on reference to recent words that they mostly find a place in the dictionary.

Dr. Maxwell's work is highly meritorious, and must have involved a painful amount of labour. It is of international importance. French has been chosen as the foundation, and French words have consequently been translated into Latin, English, German, Italian, Spanish, and Russian. It is necessary that the reader should know a little French if he wishes to gain every advantage from the work. It is rich in synonyms. There is no dictionary in the world like it. Its moderate price (20 francs) places it within the reach of the profession generally. It would be lamentable if such a painstaking and accurate work were not to meet with the success which it certainly ought to achieve.

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*Nervous Exhaustion (Neurasthenia): Its Symptoms, Nature, Sequences, and Treatment.* By GEORGE M. BEARD, A.M., M.D. Edited by A. D. Rockwell, A.M., M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1890.

Whatever opinion may be held in regard to the necessity of introducing the word neurasthenia, all will admit that a number of cases present the symptoms of nervous exhaustion. Again, while there is a general feeling that the subject has been so much written upon during the last few years, that readers themselves are in danger of exhaustion, it is true that there has been an advantage in the more definite grouping of the cases which Dr. Beard desired to include under Neurasthenia. It is convenient to have in a handy form the work which is especially associated with this author's name. The malady is treated in a systematic manner. We have the symptoms defined, among which are included topophobia, claustrophobia, agoraphobia, anthropophobia, monophobia, phobophobia, mysophobia, and pantaphobia. The love of