electrifying the white texture of the convolutions. If, then, the centres of motion and sensation cannot be determined, what right have Dr. Ferrier and other physiological psychologists to assume that they can locate the higher faculties of the mind in the grey cortex of the brain? One of the highest authorities, Dr. Brown-Séquard, has concluded, after years of patient research, that the brain acts as a whole and not in parts. It does seem most illogical to suppose that a substance like the grey cortex of the brain, which is of a uniform structure throughout, can be portioned out into different organs; and yet we are expected to believe that one portion is the seat of what is named ideation (a manufactory of ideas) another of memory, and so on. This is a revival of Gall's system, and the diagram of a skull, mapped out in divisions, given in Dr. Ferrier's book, reminds us of the phrenological busts which were so conspicuous many years ago in Deville's shop in the Strand.

Before concluding, we cannot refrain from noticing a useless and inconclusive experiment which Dr. Ferrier made on a monkey. After removing the whole of the occipital lobes of its brain, he gravely tells us that it impaired the animal's appetite. The wonder is that poor Jacko, after such a shock to his nervous system, had any appetite left.

Notes on Asylums for the Insane in America. By JOHN CHARLES BUCKNILL, M.D., F.R.S., late Lord Chancellor's Visitor of Lunatics. London: J. and A. Churchill.

On Some Relations between Intemperance and Insanity. Read before the Medico-Psychological Association, January 31, 1877. By JOHN CHARLES BUCKNILL, M.D., F.R.S., &c.

The first of these publications is a reprint of papers published in the *Lancet* by Dr. Bucknill, much to the annoyance of our medical brethren on the other side of the Atlantic; and we must allow that they have some reason for their chagrin. The bone of contention is the use of mechanical restraint in the treatment of lunatics. Dr. Bucknill says: "I have been able to come to no other conclusion than that the great stumbling-block of the American superintendents is their most unfortunate and unhappy resistance to the abolition of mechanical restraint." However, it is not only in America, but also in England and on the Continent, that there are alienists of the highest authority who, under particular circumstances, consider mechanical restraint less likely to excite a patient to resistance than the frequent interference of an attendant.

We turn with more pleasure to Dr. Bucknill's address, delivered before the Medico-Psychological Association last January. His remarks on the drink-etiologi of insanity are sound and practical. He says: "The cases which have been directly caused by strong drink alone should be separated from those in which alcohol has only acted the part of an ally with other enemies of mental health; for it is very certain that in many cases in which intemperance has aided in this warfare, its share of influence has been by no means the greatest: hereditary predisposition, mental overstrain, worry, and an array of combining causes having had by far the greatest power in bringing about the common result."

Further on he makes some judicious observations on the use, as opposed to the abuse, of alcohol. "Consider the great part which grief and anxiety, worry, and overstrain play in the production of insanity; the depressing effects of poverty and the failing struggle for existence; of misery in all its forms; and then consider to how great an extent the use of alcohol oftentimes tends to make the burthen of life bearable—if not by stimulating the powers, by deadening the sensibilities of men; and I think you will agree with me that, by the occasional help of strong drink, a man may sometimes be able to weather that point of wretchedness upon which his sanity would otherwise have been wrecked."

The whole of the address is worthy of a careful perusal.

Clinical Studies. By Sir JOHN ROSE CORMACK, K.D., F.R.S.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, Physician to the Hertford British Hospital of Paris. London: J. Churchill, New Burlington Street. Paris: Galignani, 224 Rue de Rivoli.

Sir John Rose Cormack has produced two volumes on clinical medicine, the result of his private and hospital practice in Paris, Edinburgh, and elsewhere.

In the first volume much valuable information is given on the various epidemic fevers, and more than two hundred pages are devoted to the consideration of "The Epidemic Fever" which prevailed in Edinburgh and other towns in 1843—1846.

In 1843 the same author published a treatise on this epidemic form of fever, now known by the name of "relapsing fever." A good deal of this is reproduced by him, but with considerable additions, and he now places before us all that is yet known of this peculiar epidemic. The account is very care-