

Surgery,' yet the title-page does not even contain the name of the city where it is published, still less a date, or any direction where it can be obtained. Again, it is very rarely that works when met with are found to contain much original matter, any account of the progress of Italian surgery, or any record of the cases treated in the immense hospitals which are crowded with patients in all the larger towns of the peninsula. The pamphlet of Dr. Arietti is a specimen of the most numerous class of the works of Italian surgeons, and it is a very bad specimen of a very bad class. A medical man, in the course of a few years, meets with five or six cases which he considers unusual or successful, or at any rate likely to do him good if made known. Upon this, he makes a pamphlet, dedicates it to the chief personage of his district, glorifying himself and the "Most High, who has blessed the beneficent hand that saved the patient." (Arietti, p. 31.) The cases are, one of lithotomy in a child; one of lithotripsy; one of extirpation of an encysted tumour; and one of arteriotomy in a case of apoplexy: none of them possessing more than the most ordinary interest. Among the cases in the Report of the Roman Hospital are three of lithotomy in children, two being successful, one fatal; five successful cases of cataract operated on by depression; one of cancer of the lip, which reappeared; nine cases of contraction, in one of which violent hemorrhage was stopped by the application of Matico leaves; and in another, death followed gangrene of the cord to which ligature had been applied in mass. Some cases of encysted tumours, fistulæ, hydrocele, amputations of the penis and of the fingers and toes, with one of amputation of the thigh, and another of extirpation of the eyeball, complete the list of operations in this hospital during the year. We find nothing of interest in the details.

The little work of Dr. Monteggia is a plain and useful work for students, detailing what should be known about venesection, arteriotomy, leeches, cupping, the seton, issues, moxa, blisters, enemata, and vaccination; but not containing anything which will not be found in our own elementary works and dictionaries.

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ART. III.—*A Popular History of Mammalia; comprising a familiar Account of their Classification and Habits*. By ADAM WHITE, F.L.S., Assistant in the Zoological Department of the British Museum.—London, 1850. Square 16mo, pp. 364. With Sixteen Coloured Plates.

WE regard it as a most valuable feature in our present literature, that men of high scientific rank do not now disdain to write elementary treatises; so that the race of mere compilations and transcripts which so long held possession of the field, is being gradually driven from it by original works of vastly superior character. In this enterprise the Messrs. Reeve are bearing an honorable part; and we wish them all success. We have already noticed one of the series of illustrated popular works on Natural History, which is in course of publication by them; and the volume now before us fully sustains the character which we had the pleasure of giving to Mr. Landsborough's 'History of British Seaweeds.' It consists of a popular view of the classification of the Mammalia, the characters of the principal groups and of their most important subdivisions, and notices of the habits and mode of life of some of the most interesting species. The

illustrative figures are drawn with great spirit, principally from living specimens in the menageries of the Earl of Derby and the Zoological Society, and the remainder from stuffed specimens in the British Museum. The classification adopted is that of Mr. Gray, and is consequently in accordance with that of the zoological collection which is under the charge of that eminent naturalist. In some respects this is an advantage, as the book is the better enabled to serve as a guide to the Mammalian department of the British Museum. But we cannot help expressing our regret that a view of the relations of animals, so inconsistent with all sound anatomical and physiological principles, as that which places the whole series of Marsupialia (including the graminivorous Kangaroo) between the Moles and the Seals in the order *Feræ*, and the Ornithorhynchus and Echidna between the Ant-eaters and the Sloths in the order *Edentata*, should still be perpetuated even in an elementary work,—much more, in our national collection. In an Appendix, we are furnished with a conspectus of the class Mammalia, recently published by the Prince of Canino, in whose classification the labours of anatomists and physiologists are fully recognised.

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ART. IV.—*An Elementary Course of Geology, Mineralogy, and Physical Geography.* By DAVID T. ANSTED, M.A. F.R.S., Professor of Geology in King's College, London, &c. &c.—London, 1850. Post 8vo, pp. 584. With 234 Wood Engravings.

THE author's object in composing this treatise has been to offer to the students of geology a systematic collection of the principal facts upon which the science is based, the inferences fairly deducible from them, and the more immediate and direct applications of them to practice. Commencing with the outlines of Chemistry, he has given a general account of those combinations of elementary substances most frequently met with, of the forces acting upon matter, and of the laws which express the mode of action of those forces. These general principles are then exemplified in a survey of the existing condition of the earth's surface, and of the changes now in progress, tending to modify the physical features of various parts of the world; it being the author's endeavour to give a true and rational account of the various phenomena of the surface, the forms of continents and islands, the mountain and river systems, and generally the horizontal and vertical profile of our globe. All these facts and descriptions, which together constitute one great department of Physical Geography, are followed by an account of the atmospheric and aqueous actions, whose constant performance tends to alter the earth's surface by reducing its inequalities; and this, again, is succeeded by an account of those subterranean movements, whose result is to add to the inequalities of surface at present existing, or to produce others in new directions.

From these descriptions, the author passes to another department of his subject, namely, Mineralogy; under which head he explains and illustrates the nature of those solid materials or mineral substances, of which the whole superficial crust of the globe is made up. The singular relations of crystalline form, and the various other physical characters of these substances, are first dwelt on, and then the actual properties of the minerals themselves. This portion of the work is, perhaps, the one that