

A Manual of the Practice of Medicine. By GEORGE ROE LOCKWOOD, M.D., Professor of Physic in the Women's Medical College of the New York Infirmary, etc. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders: 1896.

THIS volume forms one of the publisher's "New Aid Series." In it the author closely follows Osler in his arrangement of the subjects discussed. It is printed in the well-known style of the series, and is illustrated very fairly for a book of its class, the charts being of a very superior type. A manual such as this is better than a compend, much above a volume of examination questions for the cramming of students, but still falls short of the text-book of originality, however brief. For the purpose for which it is intended it will probably suit admirably.

An Essay on Malaria and its Consequences. By R. LINDSAY, A.M., M.B., F.R.C.S.E. London: H. K. Lewis: 1895.

ALTHOUGH Dr Lindsay has a theory of his own which we do not think will meet with wide acceptance in the face of Laveran's observations, yet the book may be read with advantage. The author has had wide experience, and his observations are made with care and discrimination. He seems to think that carbonic acid in excess "extinguishes combustion"; hence the phenomena known as malaria. He thinks that the hydrochloric acid which is used to dissolve quinine is the specific, not the quinine itself, and gives his faith to salts and acids of "haloid origin" as probable antidotes in some part or degree to the poison of malaria.

History of the Cholera Controversy, with Directions for the Treatment of the Disease. By Sir GEORGE JOHNSON, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S. London: J. & A. Churchill: 1896.

IN this brochure Sir George Johnson refers to the opinions he has held since 1849 with regard to the treatment of cholera by castor oil, and shows how the most recent ideas as to the pathology of the disease have proved the correctness of his judgment, that opium and astringents were injurious, and that evacuation was indicated. His chapter on treatment is most valuable, and should be read by all who have to deal with this dread disease. Indeed, no one can fail to be instructed, as much which refers to cholera refers also to diarrhoea during an epidemic season.

Parasitism, Organic and Social. By JEAN MASSART and EMILE VANDERVELDE. Translated by WILLIAM MACDONALD; Revised by J. ARTHUR THOMSON. With a Preface by Prof. PATRICK GEDDES. London: Swan Sonnenschein & Co.: 1895.

THE word Parasitism arose in the social world before it came into the organic world—here, indeed, agreeing with more biological

ideas than naturalists always recognise. This book, to quote from the preface, "results from collaboration of a specialist in natural science with one in economics. Hence it works out the old idea, not only with modern detail and precision, but upon a higher spiral, comparing the wealth of natural history facts with the wealth of social ones, and thus giving a concrete instance of that practical union and unison of biology and sociology which has been so long proclaimed by the philosophers, but so little carried into practice." The book is suggestive, not exhaustive; the authors have opened the subject, not closed it. It is intended to arouse discussions. It is one which should be read by all philanthropists and economists, and will doubtless interest many members of the medical profession. The four chapters into which the book is divided deal with the various forms of parasitism, the evolution of parasitism, the influence of the parasitic life upon the parasite, and the influence of parasiticism upon the host. The author's conclusions may be perhaps summarized by a quotation of the concluding lines of the book. "The society which is exploited by parasites becomes feeble; the parasitic individuals tend to degenerate. If the society is poorly or defectively organised, there is a free multiplication of the parasitic classes, and the collapse and total ruin of that society soon follows. On the other hand, if the resistance which it offers to exploitation be at all adequate, there will be a speedy elimination of the individuals and classes who become parasitic."

Medical and Surgical Report of the Children's Hospital, 1869-1894.

Edited by T. M. ROTCH, M.D., and HERBERT L. BURRELL, M.D.
Boston, U.S.A.: Published by the Board of Managers: 1895.

THIS is a most interesting volume, admirably arranged, well printed, and lavishly illustrated; it is quite a model of an hospital report. It begins with an administrative chapter, which includes a history and description of the hospital, its management, its convalescent home, and its schemes of out-door relief. The training of the nurses is well described by the lady superintendent. The second part of the work, or medical division, contains a series of original papers by members of the staff.

The subjects are various, and the papers are delightfully brief and to the point. I. Typhoid Fever. A series of forty-two cases with two deaths are tabulated with much precision by Dr Gordon Morrill. Dr Rotch writes on the value of milk laboratories for hospitals. Dr Blake discusses the relation of an aural service to the needs of a general hospital for children. Dr Buckingham contributes a thoughtful paper on malaria in children, and the late Dr Thomas Sherman describes an epidemic of scarlet fever. Dr Townsend gives his views on the etiology of chorea, which he associates in many cases with severe mental strain at school work; in others, as the result of reflex irritation in eyes, ears, or genital