

pecially valuable for the definite and explicit instructions as to the methods of investigating cases. One hundred pages are devoted to this portion of the subject.

Succinct practical directions are given as to the modes of using electricity in the diagnosis of cases of paralysis. Even here the author shows that he has not depended entirely upon the ordinary text-books for his matter, but has called upon experience and has gone to current literature for his facts. He notes, for instance, that in most cases of spastic paralysis which he has had the opportunity of examining, simple diminution, instead of simple increase, in the electrical reaction has been present. A brief account of the partial form of the reaction of degeneration described by Remak and Erb as occurring in subacute atrophic spinal paralysis is also given. In this curious condition every kind of direct and indirect excitation of the muscles, even instantaneous stimuli, invariably produce sluggish contractions.

Valuable tables of differential diagnosis are scattered throughout that part of the book which discusses special diseases of the cord and its envelopes.

In the chapter on "Concussion of the Spinal Cord, with Special Reference to the Spinal Symptoms which Result from Railway Collisions and the Method of Investigating Railway Cases," fortunately for scientific medicine, the work of Mr. Herbert Page has been drawn upon for the bulk of the matter, rather than the brilliant but too often misleading treatises of Erichsen.

Pseudo-hypertrophic paralysis is discussed in an appendix, because recent observations seem to show that in it the spinal cord may be perfectly healthy.

This book will prove of the richest value not only to the neurologist, but also to the student and general practitioner. C. J. M.

REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTICES.

DISEASES OF THE SPINAL CORD. By BYRON BRAMWELL, M.D., F.R.C.P.(Edin.), Lecturer on the Principles and Practice of Medicine and on Medical Diagnosis in the Extra-Academical School of Medicine, Edinburgh, etc. With One Hundred and Eighty-Three Illustrations. Second Edition. Edinburgh, Young J. Pentland, 1884. Pp. 359.

While much has been recently written in monographs and in contributions to journals on the spinal cord and its diseases, a real need has existed for a concise and well-arranged text-book on this subject. This has now been supplied by the excellent work of Dr. Bramwell. Of the one hundred and eighty-three illustrations one-third are original, and many of them represent the results of careful and thorough microscopic work in the pathology of spinal diseases. The method of case-taking suggested is so useful and sensible that we would be tempted to transcribe it in full if space permitted. The book is es-