

and temporal regions, as well as in the meatus. The postero-superior wall of the meatus bulged downwards, and behind it a mass of cholesteatoma could just be seen. The patient having declined operation, the author endeavoured to give relief by other means. He ordered instillations of glycerin with carbolic acid, leeches and ice to the mastoid, and six grains of sodium salicylate to be taken every two hours. Besides this, the tympanic cavity was washed out daily through the Eustachian tube. On the fifth day, during forcible syringing of the ear, a mass of cholesteatoma came away, with immediate relief. Ten days later all disquieting symptoms had disappeared.

The second case was that of a man aged twenty-two, in whom similar symptoms supervened, also after a bath. The mass came away after four days, and a fortnight later the patient was well. *Chichele Nourse.*

Toeplitz, Max.—*The Education of Children with Impaired Hearing.* "The Post-Graduate," January, 1904.

The author points out the scarcity of institutions for these children when compared with those for the education of the blind. He briefly describes the normal hearing, then the hearing in the aurally disturbed child, his psychic development, and finally, his education. It is not the lack of hearing as such, but the conscious impediment in the development of speech that is of extreme detriment to the child with hardness of hearing, since it is thus prevented from thinking.

In dealing with the education of these children Toeplitz thinks that hearing-tubes and similar devices may be used to conduct the child's own voice into the ear for better pronunciation, but not continuously. Pedagogic treatment should begin early, even before the usual school age, as these children are usually much spoiled. The eye and tactile sensations should be practised, particularly the muscular sense, by rhythmic movements of the extremities and organs of speech. For the latter blowing instruments should be used to exercise the inspiration. Above all—and this is to be done at the early stages,—association between the perception of the object and its conception should be methodically taught. The author finally points out that Groszmann holds that a close co-operation of physicians and education is imperative to do full justice to these children.

Macleod Yearsley.

THERAPEUTICS.

Juliusberg, F. (Frankfort).—*Gummata at the Site of Injection of Preparations of Mercury.* "Münch. med. Woch.," No. 15, 1903.

In some instances the injection of insoluble preparations of mercury has been followed by the formation of swellings presenting many characteristics of gummata. Juliusberg says much care is required in compounding the mercurial salts with the paraffin in order that they may cause no irritation and thereby diminish the likelihood of the development of such swellings. A useful list of references is appended.

Dundas Grant.

Holzapfel (Kiel).—*The Sterilisation of Small Quantities of Surgical Dressings.* "Münch. med. Woch.," No. 16, 1903.

The dressing material is contained in a cylindrical metal receptacle and steam is driven into what is its upper part, during the process, from a

small boiler with a spirit-lamp. The steam passes down through the material and escapes through a small opening, which is afterwards closed. The receptacle is then detached from the boiler-tube, and the connecting opening is closed by means of a milled head. The apparatus is made by Schädel in Leipzig. *Dundas Grant.*

REVIEW.

Diseases of the Ear: A Text-book for Practitioners and Students of Medicine. By EDWARD BRADFORD DENCH, Ph.B., M.D., Professor of Diseases of the Ear in the University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College; Aural Surgeon, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary; etc. Third Edition, revised and enlarged, with 15 plates and 158 illustrations in the text. New York and London: D. Appleton and Co., 1903.

The first edition of this work appeared in 1891, and the call for a third during the past year is sufficient evidence that it has been highly appreciated. The reason of this appreciation is obvious to those who give the handsome volume the careful study it deserves. The subject of diseases of the ear is treated in a clear and exhaustive manner. All difficulties are looked fairly in the face, and are discussed with the same freedom and detail as if they were placed by the reader before the author in confidential conversation. In addition to his own experience and strong personal opinions, the author gives the fullest evidence of having studied each portion of the subject in the works of others, notably those of German and American origin. It is very difficult, therefore, to find any omissions in the accounts of the various morbid states. As before, the classification of the different diseases errs on the side of sub-division rather than of combination. Conditions, which by some would be looked upon as stages or degrees of the same disease, are here and there enumerated as individual pathological entities, as, for instance, in the case of the acute inflammatory affections of the Eustachian tubes and tympanum. Nothing, however, is lost so far as practical requirements are concerned, and the resulting elaboration probably makes the statements more instructive than would otherwise have been the case. In this new edition many additions to the illustrations are to be found, especially in the anatomical sections. The operative treatment of the dangerous sequelæ of suppurative disease of the middle ear and petrous bone is considered in much greater detail than in previous editions. The surgical anatomy of the internal jugular vein is described in considerable detail, and the indications for its ligation carefully considered. Possibly the risk of "locking the wolf in the fold" by leaving the uppermost part of the vein with its contents *in situ*, might in another edition deserve further discussion. The author's results are, however, most admirable.

The work as a whole will be found by the student a singularly lucid guide to the science and art of otology, and we doubt if the specialist can read many of its pages without coming across some new fact or suggestive statement. The new edition will only establish still more the popularity of Dr. Dench's text-book.