language and in the briefest possible space, a summary of some of the more modern theories on the various questions connected with syphilis, and prescribing a course of treatment in each case which, if not very original, is something better—viz., safe and rational. Mr. Harrison has evidently had a very extensive experience in this branch of surgery, and has used both his own and other men's researches to good profit in shaping for himself a trustworthy guide to practice. Under these circumstances we think he is fairly entitled to speak on the subject of his own speciality; and we further think that he has spoken to good effect, sometimes perhaps in rather too brief and oracular style, but usually with great lucidity and decision. A comparison between such a book as this, in which the new doctrines on syphilis are set forth, with the treatise of John Hunter, will show how much the study of syphilis has gained in precision since that great surgeon wrote; but it will show not less distinctly the many points which still remain for elucidation. These points are not passed over by our author, and on most of them he gives a clear opinion—not always detailing the course of reasoning which has led him to form it, but always holding out some light to his reader.

ART. X.—*Transactions of the Pathological Society of London.*
Vol. X., including the Report of the Proceedings for the Session 1858–9.—London, 1859. pp. 365.

WE are happy in being able again to point to the annual volume issued by the Pathological Society as a valuable contribution to medical literature, no less than as a memorial of the work done by its members. Not long since (vol. xxii. p. 416) we gave a general *résumé* of the labours of the Society during the first ten years of its existence, to which we must refer for our general estimate of the manner in which it fulfils its functions. It is out of our power on the present occasion to do more than draw the attention of our readers to this important storehouse of facts. Among them we may signalize the collection of cases of obstructed cerebral arteries, by Dr. Bristowe; the various forms of disease affecting the ovaries, by Mr. Spencer Wells; the illustrations of diphtheria, by Drs. Peacock, Semple, Harley, and others; the inquiry by Dr. Bristowe and Mr. Ord into the existence of amylaceous compounds in the human body, as deserving special attention. Nor would it be right to conclude this brief notice without thanking the secretaries, both of whose names appear frequently among the exhibitors, for the very excellent manner in which they have performed their duties as editors of the volume.

ART. XI.—*A Manual of the Sub-Kingdom Protozoa; with a General Introduction on the Principles of Zoology.* By JOSEPH REAY GREENE, B.A., Professor of Natural History in Queen's College, Cork.—London, 1859. Small 8vo. pp. 88.

THIS work, the first part of a manual on the entire animal kingdom, about to be issued by Messrs. Galbraith and Haughton, is a concise compilation of our existing knowledge of the subject on which it treats,

and has been executed with a considerable amount of care; but it is doubtful if it will be found more useful than many of the popular treatises on natural history with which our book-market is already inundated. The work does not enter into sufficient detail to render it of much service to the professed zoologist; and intended, as it must be, for the general student, it appears to be far too encumbered with the classifications and divisions of different systematic writers, as to the real meaning of which the reader is almost entirely left in darkness. The book is illustrated by some capital woodcuts—most, if not all, of which are copies, but some of which seem to be finished in a manner superior to the originals.

ART. XII. — *Om Uræmi*. Akademisk Afhandling. Af SAMUEL GUSTAF TROILIUS.—*Stockholm*, 1858. 8vo. pp. 56.
On Uræmia. An Academic Thesis. By SAMUEL GUSTAVUS TROILIUS.

THE author defines uræmia as an intoxication depending on the presence in the blood of the products of the decomposition of urea, unconnected with any constant pathological changes, except that the blood usually contains carbonate of ammonia, along with still undecomposed urea. The author compares the effects of urea in the blood with those of pus, an abnormal, and of bile, a normal product. The objection, that it is impossible that so many and various effects as are attributed to the existence of urea in the blood should be due to a single agent, the author meets by quoting from Dr. Huss the various effects attributed by all to the operation of the miasm of typhus, an hypothetically assumed body, which no one has ever seen; and which cannot be made perceptible to our senses by the most delicate chemical reagents, but manifests itself only by its effects on the human organism. Syphilis, again, affords an example of the most varied effects produced by a virus whose vehicle is a pus which no one has yet succeeded in distinguishing, either by its microscopic characters or chemical reagents from the surgeon's "pus bonum et laudabile." Some few authors, denying the action of uræmia, have endeavoured to explain the symptoms in another mode. Osborne seeks their cause in arachnitis, but this view is refuted by morbid anatomy. Owen Rees refers them to hydræmia, but Frerichs shows that uræmic convulsions and coma are often observed in the several stages of scarlatina and typhus, without our being able to assume the existence of any dilution of the blood. "In the typhoid of cholera," adds the author, "which I shall hereafter endeavour to prove referrible to uræmic intoxication, hydræmia can scarcely be supposed to have existed." After such a line of argument, Herr Troilius proceeds to the consideration of the several symptoms of uræmia.

The symptoms of uræmia proceed chiefly from the nervous system, exhibiting themselves as lesions of the functions of the brain and spinal cord. At the same time the uræmic intoxication manifests itself in changes in the secreting and motor functions of the stomach, and perhaps also of the intestinal canal, and in abnormal secre-