PART SECOND.

Bibliographical Record.

ART. I.—*Lectures on Surgical Pathology, delivered at the Royal College of Surgeons of England.* By JAMES PAGET, F.R.S., Surgeon Extraordinary to Her Majesty the Queen, Surgeon in Ordinary to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's and Christ's Hospitals. Revised and Edited by WILLIAM TURNER, M.B. London, F.R.C.S.E., F.R.S.E., Senior Demonstrator of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh.—London, 1863. pp. 832.

MR. PAGET'S lectures were originally delivered before the Royal College of Surgeons during the six years (from 1847 to 1852) in which he held the office of Professor of Anatomy and Surgery to the College. The subjects chosen were various; and each course, as it came to an end, was fully discussed in the pages of this Review. Subsequently, in 1853, these lectures were collected and published in two volumes, under the name of 'Lectures on Surgical Pathology.' They were also briefly noticed by us at the time; but they had been so fully considered at the time of their delivery, that it required only a few words to commend them again to the attention of our readers. They were received with great favour by the profession, and soon took a high place in surgical literature; and still, after the lapse of ten years, they stand almost unrivalled for the large and comprehensive spirit in which they treat some of the most difficult, and yet fundamental, subjects in medical science.

But fortunately, our knowledge is advancing with such rapid strides, that a book which is ten years old is almost sure to be a little behind the science of the day; and this may be said even of such philosophical writings as Mr. Paget's. Perhaps there is no branch of professional knowledge which is making greater progress than physiology; and physiology is peculiarly the science of the medical man—of the surgeon no less than of the physician; and it is in this respect—in the points where they touch physiology—that Mr. Paget's lectures have fallen behind the requirements of the day. Such being the case, he wisely determined to bring out a new edition, which should embody all the "facts, probabilities, and guesses at truth," which have been added to pathology in the last ten years. But the demands upon his time and energies were so numerous, that it was impossible

for him to undertake the task without assistance. In his preface he says:

"I was, therefore, glad to be able to commit the work of revision to my friend, and former pupil, Mr. Turner, whom I know to be not only very conversant with the progress of medical science, but able to test others' observations by his own. It is not for me to say how well he has done the work, for I have so worked with him as to be equally with him responsible."

In comparing the old and the new edition, we find that the general arrangement of the work is much the same as before. Indeed, the only change that we have observed in this respect is, that the "recurrent tumours," including the "fibroid" and "fibro-nucleated," have been classed after instead of before the myeloid, osseous, glandular, and erectile tumours, so that they now stand immediately before the cancers, and form the link between the (so-called) benign and malignant growths. In consequence of this alteration, the early part of the chapter on recurrent tumours has been re-written.

The minor changes that have been made are more numerous. Every page, almost every paragraph, bespeaks the careful revision which the whole work has undergone. Here and there a sentence has been added, and here and there one has been omitted. Anything which seemed superfluous has been left out, while some subjects have been made clearer by a little further explanation. In some instances, the history of patients has been brought down to a recent date; and the author has given us the benefit of his enlarged experience by introducing new cases, and by adding to the numbers used in the statistical tables, on which some of his conclusions are founded. In a few instances, the terms employed have been altered in conformity with the scientific language of the day. For example, instead of "cellular tissue," we read now "connective tissue;" and instead of "elastic tissue," we read "the elastic form of connective tissue."

But it is in the notes that we find the most valuable additions have been made. Many fresh authorities have been quoted; and the most recent professional literature has been laid under contribution. A number of new references have been added, and among these we notice many to the Edinburgh medical journals, and to the museum of the Edinburgh University, which will perhaps have the advantage of making the lectures both more interesting and more useful to our brethren north of the Tweed. Besides this, several of the questions which now occupy the attention of physiologists and pathologists—such as the development of connective tissue, amyloid degeneration, wasting palsy, &c., are discussed at length; and the views of Virchow, Rokitsansky, and other distinguished foreigners, considered and criticized.

If we are not mistaken, the author's hand may be traced in the revision of the text; while the editor's labours have been chiefly confined to the notes. Mr. Paget needs no praise from us; his merits are recognised by the whole profession. To Mr. Turner we can offer no higher compliment than to say that the editor of the volume before us appears to be well worthy of the author.

In the present edition, the work has been printed in smaller type, and compressed into one volume; and though it may not be so agreeable or convenient to read as in its original form, it has the advantage of being less expensive—an advantage not to be overlooked in these days of cheap literature.

ART. II.—*On the Origin of Vaccine Inoculation*. By EDWARD JENNER, M.D., F.R.S., &c.—*London*, 1801; reprinted, *London*, 1863. pp. 8.

Mr. J. BRENDON CURGENVEN has, by the opportune republication of this tract, brought us, as it were, face to face with the illustrious Jenner, that we may receive from him a mild, but only too well-merited rebuke, for the want of care that we, his successors, have given to the performance of vaccination. Had the cautions of the immortal discoverer been borne in mind by past and present generations of vaccinators, we should not have needed Mr. Curgenven's reminder, nor should we have witnessed what we have witnessed in this metropolis within the last twelve months—a panic of small-pox, and cries for admission into the Small-pox Hospital beyond its capability to meet. It would not have happened that nearly as many cases were admitted into that institution within six months as have ever been admitted in any previous twelve months since its establishment. In the year 1859, 1185 cases were admitted, and in the first half of this year the admissions were 838. It would not have been known that parishes in all directions should have been bewildered to know what to do with their small-pox cases! Neither should we from time to time have heard of fearful outbreaks of small-pox ravaging English towns and rural districts.

With the sons of Jacob, we must confess “we are verily guilty concerning our brother . . . therefore hath this distress come upon us.” It cannot be concealed that we have been too often careless in the manner of doing this small, but certainly not trifling, operation. Contenting ourselves with having inserted the lymph from a vaccine vesicle into an arm, the bare fact has been let pass for a complete protection against small-pox, while due care has not been had that the lymph has been taken from a vesicle of proper age, size, &c., and that it has gone through its own proper course; and so it has happened that in after life the supposed protection has failed, not only to preserve the skin, but also to save lives, fearfully swelling the amount of human misery, and adding to the number of our pauper people.

It cannot be unprofitable to reflect upon the words of the wise, and to learn from their experience; let us, therefore, compare the history of the errors and wrong inferences that attended the origin of vaccine inoculation, as related by Jenner himself, with what we may daily see for ourselves:

“In the course of the investigation of this subject, which, like all others of a complex and intricate nature, presented many difficulties, I found that some