of the bronchi, as well as of the larynx, in this disease, he thinks that if the latter be overcome, the bronchial spasm soon yields.

In the so-called stomach and hysterical coughs, in laryngismus epileptica (2 cases), and in the laryngeal complication of pulmonary phthisis, the topical medication has been by Dr. Watson, as by others, employed with excellent results.

We recommend this very practical and well-written work very cordially to our readers.

ART. V.—*A Treatise on Diseases of the Lungs, having especial reference to Consumption.* By ANTHONY WILLIAM CLARKE, M.D.—London, 1854.

THE author informs us in his preface, that “the sources of his information have been various,” and “that nothing will be found in his book which will not be verified under the test of trial.” He also states that “independent in circumstances, he commits his brain-child to the world, satisfied if the amiable reader approves.”

It requires greater amiability than we possess to welcome this very feeble and decrepid “brain-child” in the way its parent seems to expect. We have read the greater part of the book carefully, but we can find little that can have sprung from Dr. Clarke’s brain, except at second hand. Page after page is filled with the most familiar facts, and the “experience acquired in a practice of tolerable extent” has just sufficed to make a book, which any man with a few good treatises before him might have compiled. We are sorry thus to speak of a gentleman who is probably a worthy and respectable practitioner, but we cannot speak otherwise, and yet speak truly.

ART. VI.—*Principles of Comparative Physiology.* By WILLIAM B. CARPENTER, M.D., F.R.S., &c. Fourth Edition.—London, 1854.

To call Dr. Carpenter the most excellent of compilers, though no small praise, would be doing him but scant justice. He is much more than a compiler, for he can not only select and combine, but he can investigate and discover. To say that Dr. Carpenter collects the facts which other men have pointed out, is merely to say that he has accomplished one of the inevitable conditions of the proposed work; but to assert that he does no more than collect, is to overlook the numerous original observations he has made himself, and the novel results which he deduces from the observations of others.

We have already had occasion to point out that Dr. Carpenter possesses in a high degree two mental qualities seldom found combined—the industry which collects, and the genius which discovers. In scarcely any former work have these powers been so marked as in the present. In no work that we have ever seen have the phenomena of life been discussed so broadly and lucidly, and in none have so many facts been put more happily and fairly into their appropriate places.

The work is, in many respects, a new one; it consists of only half the former edition, for the author found he could not do justice to his subject without enlarging the volume to an excessive degree. He has preferred, therefore, making separate works of the Comparative and the General Physiology, and the volume containing the latter subject has yet to appear.

We should devote a longer space to this work than we can give it here, did we not feel that no review is really necessary, for it will be read by all physiologists, and, from its comprehensive nature, it is little adapted for an analytical summary. When the other volume appears, however, we shall take the opportunity of including this volume in a comprehensive review on the general position of physiological science.

The work is most beautifully and copiously illustrated, as usual in all Dr. Carpenter's productions.

ART. VII.—*Transactions of the Pathological Society.* Volume V.
London, 1854.

IN announcing another volume of the 'Transactions of the Pathological Society,' we can scarcely do more than repeat the opinion so often expressed, of the extreme value and interest of the facts brought before the society. A marked feature of the work now consists in the reports, which are made on the exhibited specimens by gentlemen especially conversant with those means of investigation by which the nature of the morbid change can be best discovered. In this way some admirable original statements are called forth, and specimens are investigated much more minutely than could possibly be the case if the exhibitor alone examined them. This plan is about to be carried to a greater extent, and the society proposes to investigate, by combined observation, certain obscure or imperfectly known conditions in pathology. We shall look forward with the greatest interest to the results of this plan, and we are confident that in a little time they will not disappoint our expectations.

ART. VIII.—*A Disquisition on certain Parts and Properties of the Blood.*
By DAVID TOD, M.R.C.S.—London, 1854.

MR. TOD's work cannot be considered a common one. We are not certain that we ever before met so many novelties in so small a space. We had not got through twenty pages before we found that the blood-corpuscles, or hæmatozoa, as Mr. Tod calls them, are animalculæ, that they feed on and digest albumen, that they possess great generative powers, which vary, however, according to the time of year, so that we suppose they have their rutting season, and that they turn, or can turn rather, into spermatozoa. Further on (p. 197) we are told, that man was originally generated by a gradual change occurring in the hæmatozoa of a particular class of extinct animals, this change being the result of what botanists call a "sport;" and without entering into any long analysis, we may simply state that the entire book is filled with statements equally remarkable.