appears also to have been wanting in the power of selection; and, what rather surprises us in a physician to so large an establishment as the London Hospital, there are many points on which he does not seem to have been able to form an independent judgment, but has contented himself with heaping extracts together, and leaving the conclusions to flow from them, at the discretion of the reader. We must, however, except from this criticism all the therapeutical part of the work, which is written very carefully and very fully. This has evidently been the department of medicine most cultivated by Dr. Frampton, and in spite of the deficiencies in the pathology of the work, its richness in therapeutical instructions will cause it to be, as formerly, a favourite with the practitioner. As an example of what we mean, we may cite the chapter on Rheumatism. The *description* of the disease is meagre and unsatisfactory: it occupies only four pages, and the matter of these is not particularly good; the *treatment* of rheumatism, however, occupies eighteen pages, and twelve prescriptions, with English translations for the non-initiated, are given in foot-notes. Even here, however, we notice the want of arrangement and of selection which is so marked in other chapters,—still, as far as regards treatment, it is a good chapter. The same judgment may be passed on the previous chapter on Gout. In the section on Bright's Disease, Dr. Frampton has evidently feared to get out of the depth of the class of readers he had in view, and this important and difficult subject may be said to be merely touched. The opening chapters on Fever have evidently been written with greater care, but even these do not come up thoroughly to what is known.

On the whole, we may say that the work is characterized by industry, but not by originality; by good sense, but not by genius; by useful practical rules of treatment, but not by profound knowledge of disease. In saying, that although an improvement on the former editions, it aims at the same object, and in great measure realizes it, we believe that we shall have passed the proper judgment on this old friend in a new dress.

The contributions by Dr. Frampton's colleagues are well done, without being remarkable for any great merit. We must except, however, Dr. Parker's chapter on Insanity, and Dr. Letheby's on Poisons, which are both extremely good, the latter especially. The same character is throughout given to the book—viz., that of a good practical guide, without any pretension to length of detail or to depth of research.

ART. II.—*On the Growth of Plants in Closely-glazed Cases.* By N. B. WARD, F.R.S., F.L.S. Second Edition.—London, 1852. Fcap. 8vo, pp. 143.

MR. WARD has really done for the plant what John Howard accomplished for the wretched members of his own species—he has removed the difficulties, or rather lightened the burdens, of an unnatural mode of existence. He has, in fact, enabled us to cultivate the most delicate exotics of the vegetable kingdom, in all situations and under all circumstances, however discouraging; and he has furnished us with the means of becoming practically acquainted, at a very small cost, with the living flora of every country. To the botanist, the advantages which have been already derived from the

application of these discoveries are incalculable, for they have taught him how he may safely transmit from place to place, however distant, plants of the most delicate conformation; and indeed, this application of Mr. Ward's principles has become so general, that there is not a civilized spot on the earth's surface which has not been more or less benefited thereby. But this is not all that can be said of it; for the contemplation and culture of Nature's works, in situations where, under ordinary circumstances, they could never have existed, is, at all times, a source of pleasure and of recreation; hence it happens that the possession of a little case filled with luxuriant vegetation, has often been the means of relieving the tedium of a monotonous life, of dispelling the gloom and sorrow of a sick chamber, of lightening the weight of affliction, and, in fact, of giving life and cheerfulness to the otherwise dull aspect of a very miserable dwelling. These considerations urge us to attach the greatest importance to the results of Mr. Ward's labours; and we may be excused for entering more fully into them than we are accustomed to do in this place.

The circumstance which first led our author to adopt the present mode of cultivating the growth of plants, is described in the Third Chapter of his work. He there states that the science of botany, and the writings of Linnæus, had been his recreation from his youth up; and that the earliest object of his ambition was to possess an old wall covered with ferns and mosses. To obtain this he built up some rock-work in the yard at the back of his dwelling-house, in Wellclose-square, and he therein planted a great number of British ferns, and several mosses, which he had collected in the woods near London, together with primroses, wood-sorrel, and other hardy flowering plants; but, in consequence of the smoky atmosphere of the locality, the plants soon began to decline, and they ultimately perished.

"When this attempt had been given up in despair, a fresh impetus was given to my pursuits, and I was led to reflect a little more deeply on the subject, in consequence of a simple incident which occurred in the summer of 1829. I had buried the chrysalis of a sphinx in some moist mould contained in a wide-mouth glass bottle, covered with a lid. In watching the bottle from day to day, I observed that the moisture which, during the heat of the day, arose from the mould, condensed on the surface of the glass, and returned whence it came; thus keeping the earth always in the same degree of humidity. About a week prior to the final change of the insect, a seedling fern and a grass made their appearance on the surface of the mould.

"I could not but be struck with the circumstance, of one of that very tribe of plants which I had for years fruitlessly attempted to cultivate, coming up *sponte sua* in such a situation, and asked myself seriously what were the conditions necessary for its well-being? To this the reply was—a *moist atmosphere, free from soot or other extraneous particles; light; heat; moisture; periods of rest; and change of air.* All these my plant had; the *circulation of air* being obtained by the diffusive law already described." (p. 36.)

In this manner his little plants continued to flourish for a period of four years, when, by an accident, they were destroyed; but long before that, he had commenced a series of experiments in the cultivation of the more tender species of British fern. Among others he had chosen *Trichomenes speciosum* and *Hymenophyllum Tunbrigense*, both of which had hitherto baffled all the attempts of the most practical botanists to rear

them; but they grew with surprising vigour in the case to which they were consigned by Mr. Ward; and our author has given an amusing account of the salutation which his plant received from Baron Fischer, the superintendent of the botanical establishments of the Emperor of Russia. When this botanist first saw the *Trichomenes* growing with health and vigour in one of Ward's cases, he took off his hat, made a low bow to the plant, and said, "You have been my master all the days of my life." The complete success of these experiments proved beyond doubt the applicability of his principles to the culture of the most delicate favourites of the vegetable world, and Mr. Ward soon had the pleasure of seeing his cases made the companions of the sick, and of hearing of the high esteem in which they were held by all classes of people. The consequence of this has been, that thousands of plants have been safely conveyed on ship-board from one climate to another, without being exposed to those dangers which in former times were their certain destruction.

ART. III.—*Urinary Deposits, their Diagnosis, Pathology, and Therapeutical Indications.* By GOLDING BIRD, A.M., M.D., F.R.S., &c.—London, 1853. 8vo.

FOUR editions of this work have been called for within ten years, a fact sufficiently indicative of its value. The present edition is enlarged, and in some respects much improved. A new and important chapter is added at the end of the work, on Blood-depuration by the Kidneys, which will be read with interest. Although it is not our custom to do more than notice any but the first edition of a work, the subject of urinary phenomena is so important, that we shall take an opportunity of discussing Dr. Golding Bird's treatise more at length than we are able to do at present.

ART. IV.—*On Perforating Ulcer of the Stomach, from Non-malignant Disease.* By EDWARDS CRISP, M.D. Part I.—London, 1852. 8vo, pp. 22.

THE author reprints a paper written in 1843, and adds to it such cases as have since occurred to him, or which he has found recorded in the English journals. Among 48 cases, he finds that 8 were in males, and 40 in females. The average of the former (in 6 cases) was 54 years; that of the latter (in 35 cases) being only 26·7 years, and 27 of the 35 being under 30 years of age. Adding these cases to others recorded in the previous memoir, we have:—Men 20, women 70. In 18 cases there were two ulcers. The descriptions of the ulcers and of the symptoms present nothing novel. In the treatment of the dyspeptic symptoms which frequently attend the ulceration, Dr. Crisp recommends iron, especially the sulphate and carbonate. Morphia and hydrocyanic acid are to be used when much pain is present.