time as assistant at Rothwell, Northampton. While there, he decided to enter the Indian Medical Service, and at once set about preparing himself for the necessary examinations. As a preliminary, he became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, and shortly thereafter, he headed the list of the successful candidates for the Indian Medical Service. At the close of the session at the Army Medical School, Netley, his student career was fitly crowned by an achievement seldom, if ever, equalled. In the *Lancet's* report of the prize distribution ceremony, held on Monday, 6th August, 1883, it is remarked that "a notable feature of the present session has been, that all the prizes, with a single exception, have been carried off by one of the surgeons on probation, Mr. J. M. Young of the Indian Medical Service. . . . In handing to Mr. Young, in succession, the Herbert, Martin, Parkes, and Montefiore medals and prizes, Sir Galbraith Logan made some happy references to the special advantages that might be hoped for to the public service from the superior ability which Mr. Young had manifested in the various branches of professional knowledge which the rewards represented."

He died of hydrophobia, which resulted from a dog licking his hand, on which there was a scratch, on the 28th April last, in his 28th year, at Gorakhpore, where he had been stationed for some time, and where, at the time of his death, he was Officiating Medical Officer to the 5th Native Infantry.

J. W. D.

REVIEWS.

Insanity and Allied Neuroses: Practical and Clinical. By GEORGE H. SAVAGE, M.D., &c. London: Cassell & Company. 1885.

Lectures on Mental Disease. By W. H. O. SANKEY, M.D., &c. Second Edition. With Illustrations. London: H. K. Lewis. 1885.

WE think it is Mr. Gladstone who somewhere compares small religious sects to little pools separated from the great ocean, which soon become, because of their isolation, stagnant and offensive. It is necessarily much the same in medicine in the

case of that specialism of the narrower sort which is becoming profitable and fashionable, and is not, as specialisation should be, a result of the evolution of the art, and therefore a sign of its progress, but rather a result of the fact that "folk maun dae something for their bread," and therefore neglect the broad pastures to dig their little "tater patches." The books whose titles are given above are concerned with a specialty of the broadest and most comprehensive character, and there should be no danger of its practitioners suffering from the restricted scope which must surely worry the man who devotes his life to the cultivation of a few inches of mucous membrane. Yet, as a specialty it has suffered much from its divorce from the general work and interests of the profession. It has suffered in its own development, and in the loss of both public and professional interest. Its practitioners are concerned more with business than with medicine, and practise apart, freed from the light and competition which influence so powerfully for good the general practitioner or the hospital physician or surgeon. Their field of action, the asylum, is still too much the old madhouse, and too little the hospital. Their scientific and medical results, with few exceptions, and making all due allowance for the difficulties of the subject, are poor, considering their opportunities and the abundance of pathological and clinical material at their disposal.

The result of this unnatural divorce on the general profession is, that there is great apathy or indifference in regard to all its duties and interests in connection with the insane; while the ignorance of the bulk of its members of even enough knowledge of the subject to justify their discharging the important social and medical duties which the legislature has entrusted to them in connection with the committal of patients to asylums, is matter of notoriety. The profession, with characteristic indifference to its duty of influencing directly and effectively public opinion and action in matters sanitary and medical, has been content to be led in the recent public outcry for lunacy reform. Fortunately, there are significant signs of a change for the better in the attitude of the profession to this whole question as evidenced, amongst other things, by the recent decision of the medical council in reference to mental disease. The student must now, if the licensing bodies do their duty, obtain some knowledge of mental disease, and, as we are of those who believe that he is already over lectured, we earnestly hope that he will be saved attending yet another course of lectures, but rather directed to obtain his knowledge

—real knowledge, not mere cram—from clinical demonstrations and studies, with the help of a good text-book. To obtain easily the first will be a considerable difficulty to the greater number of students, and will only be made sufficiently easy when a greater reform in lunacy than the one presently occupying public attention is effected; and that is the bringing of the profession into closer relations with the treatment of the acute and curable forms of insanity through the medium of hospitals for acute cases, officered and related to centres of population in the same way as other hospitals are.

Good text-books are numerous, and in their recent multiplication give still another indication of the awakening interest in the subject. It is only about a year since we referred, in these columns, to the excellent manual of Dr. Clouston which dealt with mental disease in its clinical aspects, though, indeed, most treatises on insanity are, from the state of knowledge on the subject, compelled to be more or less clinical in their arrangement and treatment of it.

Dr. George Savage contributes to the Messrs. Cassell & Company's series of clinical manuals for practitioners and students, a very practical and concise manual, the very type, so far as size and style are concerned, of a handy book of reference and study for the student and general practitioner, who will find in it clear and well put statements and clinical pictures of the various forms of insanity, and its allied neuroses, such as epilepsy and hysteria. These diseases are, however, treated briefly, and in the way they appear to an asylum physician. The book is full of paragraphs of considerable practical importance, and we constantly come across sentences of a very suggestive kind, where the result of a full experience is tersely put. The general practitioner will find the chapter dealing with the predisposing and exciting causes of insanity helpful in dealing with the physical and moral education of children of neurotic temperament. The book includes much useful information about the legal relationship of the insane and the certifying of lunatics. Yet, in spite of all this, we must confess to a feeling of disappointment, helped to begin with by the get up of the book, which in its size, blue covers, and badly stained blue edges, suggests a handy student's book, while the reputation and known ability of the author led us to form a probably too high estimate of the kind of work to be expected. This was intensified by reading in the preface, "I have for some time felt that my period of observation without registration must terminate, and that I owe it to my position

as physician to a large hospital, to give the younger members of my profession the results of my more than twelve years' experience in Bethlem." There is really not evidence of much necessity for this registration, and we feel that other twelve years devoted to digesting the results of the registration, would enable Dr. Savage to give us a book more worthy of him and his subject; in saying this, we do not in the least overlook the value of the book in its own way. In dealing with pathology, this want of fulness and comprehensive treatment is very noticeable. A page and a half for instance contains all he has to say about the pathology of acute mania, and what he does say is of a rather negative character.

We turn with great pleasure to the second edition of Dr. Sankey's *Lectures on Mental Disease*. The first part of the book, which is about a fifth of the whole, treats of mental science or psychology, and in reference to the necessity for dealing in some fashion with this subject, we are at one with Dr. Sankey when he says—"In other medical treatises the pathologist may assume that the physiology of each organ, the diseases of which he is about to describe, is already acquired by the student. This cannot be said to be the case when the disease is mental." So, because of this known ignorance, and because the subject is a very wide one, and is discussed by writers from many different standpoints, Dr. Sankey treats of it in the interest of the student in three sections—Mental Products, Mental Processes or Statics, and Mental Processes or Dynamics, and in discussing these subjects, he quotes largely from Lewis, Bain, and Spencer. Quite apart from controversy as to systems of philosophy, there can be little doubt that a system of psychology, to be of use to medical students, must necessarily be based very much on the lines of these writers, and in the book before us this is recognised.

While we have read this portion of the book with both pleasure and profit, yet we think the purpose of the author might have been better served by a much briefer statement of it. Dr. Savage goes to quite the opposite extreme, for he omits all reference to normal psychology, because, as he says, "to my mind, the time has not come for the rearrangement of our ideas on mind and its physical basis." The difference between the two authors in this way of considering normal psychology, will give some idea of the nature and scope of the two works.

Dr. Sankey throughout aims at a broad and philosophical treatment of mental disease. This is noticeable in his classifi-

cation, which appears to us about the most scientific possible, considering the present state of our knowledge. He divides mental disease into two great divisions—viz., idiopathic and symptomatic, subdividing the former into pathological, including ordinary insanity and general paresis, and developmental, including idiocy and senile decay. In this way he gets rid of the numberless varieties which owe their existence to some prominent symptom, such as kleptomania, erotomania, dipsomania, &c., &c., and includes them all under the name ordinary insanity. The evolution of this ordinary insanity he traces through various stages, and there we meet with our old friends melancholia, mania, and dementia. At first it might appear that there was but slight gain in including these under the term ordinary insanity; but this is not so, as the gain to the student in referring them to a broad class having much in common, is very great indeed. Dr. Sankey devotes about 33 pages to the discussion of the Etiology and Pathology of Ordinary Insanity, and the same to its Treatment, and a little more to the Legal Relations of Insanity.

The section on treatment is judicious and quite up to the present notions of treatment in asylums. An important part of this is the removal of the patient to, and care in, an asylum, and as might be expected, there is a plea for private asylums. We think asylum treatment is overrated, and that after a period, longer or shorter, as the case may be, asylums help, by their machinery and life, to expedite the progress of the patient towards dementia. While, as to private asylums, we should like to see a few of the best preserved, but to them all there is the, to us, fatal objection that the liberty of the subject is placed in the hands of those who are most interested in depriving him of it.

Altogether we have read Dr. Sankey's *Lectures* with satisfaction and pleasure, and we can heartily recommend them to the attentive study of those students who care for a broad and intelligent study of a difficult and too obscure subject.

Transactions of the New York State Medical Association for the year 1884. Volume I. Edited by Austin Flint, Jun., M.D. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1885.

THIS is a handsome and well filled volume, and its publication augurs well for the future of the New York State Medical Association. The papers published are very numerous, and, as is usual in "Transactions," on very various subjects. It