Strathpeffer and Moffat are the only Scottish health resorts discussed in the volume. The article on Moffat occupies eighteen lines (five of them containing less than four words), and eight paragraphs; and we would have thought it scarcely worth while to notify that this exhaustive article is from the pen of Mr. Malcolm Morris. The motion adopted by the Council specially mentions Ireland. On the title-page of the volume the name of Ireland does not occur. Whether this is to be regarded as another injustice to Ireland we must leave the critics in the Emerald Isle to say.

A very full alphabetical index adds greatly to the value of the book, which is in every way worthy of the great Society from which it has emanated.

Deformities of the Human Foot, with their Treatment.

By W. J. WALSHAM, M.B., C.M. Aberd., F.R.C.S. Eng., and WILLIAM KENT HUGHES, M.B. Lond., M.B. Melb., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1895.

As stated in the preface, the original intention of the authors of this work was to write a book on orthopædic surgery, giving the results of Mr. Walsham's thirteen years' experience in the Orthopædic Department at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The original intention was departed from, and the subject of deformities alone published in the present form.

The most striking feature about the book is the profusion and excellence of the illustrations. Of these, more than half (176) are reproductions of photographs of the deformities taken in the Department. While some of these might have been more distinct, they are generally very good, and bring out the points which it is desired to show, and have the advantage over woodcuts that they are exact representations of the deformities.

The first chapter treats of the anatomy and mechanism of the normal foot, and is illustrated by a series of photographs enabling the reader to refresh his memory on the normal anatomy. The intimate structure of the bones of the tarsus is very carefully described, and the arrangement of the trabeculæ of the cancellous bone is shown in numerous photographic representations of sections of the bones, the striæ thus shown indicating the lines along which the weight of the body is transmitted.

More than a third of the book is concerned with the

description and treatment of talipes varus, or equino-varus as it is usually called. The description of the pathological anatomy of the condition, principally from a preparation in St. Bartholomew's Museum, is very instructive as showing the nature of the deformity of the individual bones; and the photographs enable the reader to follow the description with ease. On the subject of treatment of talipes varus, it is advised for all, except the slightest cases, to operate in two steps, overcoming the varus first, either by manipulation or mechanical or operative treatment; and after that is cured, overcoming the equinus portion of the deformity by division of the tendo Achillis. The various methods of mechanical treatment are discussed and illustrated, but plaster of Paris applied immediately after the complete rectification of the deformity is advocated, followed by a boot to prevent relapse. In severe cases the cause of the resistance to reduction of the deformity is traced to a downward and inward deflexion of the neck of the astragalus, and, therefore, division of the astragalo-scaphoid and calcaneo-spaphoid ligaments is not advised, but some form of operation on the bones. The operation on the bones which is advised is removal of a double wedge from the external and upper aspect of the tarsus, which is performed by the authors by means of a chain-saw.

The other forms of talipes receive also careful consideration, their pathological anatomy being carefully described and illustrated.

A considerable section of the book is devoted to the consideration of flat-foot. A valuable part of this is the illustrated description of the skeleton of an advanced degree of flat-foot. The treatment recommended in cases where the patient can himself temporarily restore the arch, or where the surgeon can do so without giving pain, is rest, exercise, and boots adapted to combat the deformity. Where the arch can only be restored under chloroform, wrenching into position and retention of the restored arch in plaster of Paris is recommended. In the worst degree, where the arch cannot be restored by force under chloroform, palliative treatment, or Ogston's operation, or supra-malleolar osteotomy are recommended, but they have only performed the two latter operations once, and do not say much in their favour. They state that frequently patients have been brought to the theatre to have an operation on the bones performed, but, that once under chloroform, the arch was easily restored by wrenching. Considering, however, the deformity which exists

in the bones in all fairly advanced cases, it is difficult to see how such a method of treatment can be followed by permanent cure. He figures one case thus treated after a year. The case is said to have been a severe one with convexity of the sole, and the arch is certainly seen in the photograph much improved, but it would have been useful had statistics been given of the permanence of the cure by this means in a number of cases some time after active treatment had been stopped.

The book is unquestionably a valuable addition to the literature of the subject, and contains a very considerable amount of original observation, and is certainly the best illustrated book which we have on the subject. The great care which is given to the description of the pathological anatomy of the various deformities is of great value, as suggesting rational modes of operating.

The Value of Electrical Treatment. By JULIUS ALTHAUS, M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.I., Consulting Physician to the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis, Regent's Park. London: Longmans & Co. 1895.

THIS little book of some 96 pages is one we have much pleasure in recommending to our readers.

One so often hears electricity ordered in nervous affections without any details as to its use; and it is so often applied in the same indefinite manner that evidently considerable ignorance exists as to the electrical treatment of disease. This book by Dr. Althaus, therefore, comes most opportunely, and supplies to us, in concise yet pleasing form, information much required.

The author begins with an account of the various kinds of electricity, telling the best batteries to use in each case. He then describes the action of electricity on the tissues, and he tells us what principles we must go on in applying electricity in disease. Useful details are given as to the electrodes, their areas and points of application. We are told the strength of currents to use, and for how long they should act.

The rest of the book deals with the use of electricity in various diseases considered separately. By way of illustration, some interesting cases are cited, and the successful treatment in general debility, and in some other more definite nervous affections, is very encouraging.

The book, of course, is by no means exhaustive, and, indeed,