tends to eradicate as well as to cause them. Given these deformities in a subject of normal mental health, they simply indicate that a more or less remote ancestor had been subject to the influence of the factors producing degeneracy, but that in the main the offspring were regaining the normal standard.

"The lesson to be drawn from these stigmata is the hygienic one that, given the tendency to degeneracy shown in these deformities, the progress of that person under the factors named will tend more toward disease than that of the person in whom they are absent. The frequency of these deformities should hence have early created the suspicion that they were of constitutional and not local origin."

We believe that the author would find more readers in this country were he to have contented himself with condensing instead of enlarging his work. At the same time we cannot but admire his painstaking labour in bringing forward, in support of his theory, such a mass of evidence from almost every conceivable source, and we trust that the encyclopædic dimensions of the work will not deter dentists and surgeons from looking into its pages.

A Monograph on Diseases of the Breast: their Pathology and Treatment. With Special Reference to Cancer. By W. ROGER WILLIAMS, F.R.C.S. With 76 Figures. London: John Ball & Sons. 1894.

SINCE the publication in 1854 of Velpeau's classical work, in which the labours of Sir Astley Cooper, Nélaton, Bérard, Birkett, and others are reviewed, and, within comparatively recent times, of Billroth's excellent treatise in the *Deutsche Chirurgie*, no exhaustive and authoritative work, solely confined to diseases of the breast, has appeared. The works of Labbe and Coyne, Gross, Nunn, Bryant, and a host of others, have each and all much that is valuable, but their scope is limited. Seeing that within the last few years such distinct advances have been made in our knowledge of mammary affections, both as regards pathology and treatment, the appearance at the present date of a thoroughly comprehensive monograph is as welcome as it is well-timed. The gathering together, from various sources, of the many recent contributions to this interesting realm of surgical pathology, has been undertaken by one who is eminently qualified for the task, and we venture to say that no one will read the results of Mr. Roger Williams's labours without being struck with his painstaking

industry and discriminating judgment. Mr. Williams is already known to the profession as an able statistician, and the present work not only serves to strengthen and confirm his position in this department of scientific investigation, but also to display, on the part of its author, faculties of sound reasoning and observation in matters pathological. It is more from the pathological than from the surgical side that we view this work.

Possibly on the assumption that "good wine needs no bush," the volume is without a preface. Its first four chapters deal with the ontogeny and phylogeny of the breast, with various anomalies of secretion, with excessive and defective development, and allied subjects. Of particular interest are the author's remarks on "*mammæ erraticæ*" and the development of neoplasms from supernumerary mammary structures. In 50 cases of fibro-adenoma, the author was able to trace in 7 an origin from supernumerary mammary structures, and in 132 cases of cancer, 13 cases with a similar origin, from structures quite outside the normal mamma. The various forms of hypertrophy are then fully detailed, and are followed by a chapter on histology and neoplastic pathogeny. The subject of the varieties of mammary neoplasms and their relative frequency is then discussed with an authority based on very large and carefully compiled statistics, and the way is thus opened up for the consideration of cancer, which is a masterly piece of work. To this subject no fewer than 284 pages—more than half of the volume—are devoted. Two leading types or divisions of cancer are described, according as the disease originates from the acini or from the ducts of the gland. To the first of these, the *acinous*, which includes scirrhus or alveolar cancers, the great majority (94 per cent) of mammary cancers belong, while under the category of *tubular* cancers are included the true duct-cancers. Under this heading the author does much to clear up the obscurity which has for long enveloped the so-called villous duct cancers. He points out that, under the term villous cancer, at least two perfectly distinct kinds of neoplasm are included—the non-malignant papilloma and the malignant tubular cancer or true duct cancer. Those exceptional cases of villous papilloma, in which a recurrence has taken place, are to be regarded as probably due to incomplete ablation of the primary disease. By this simple division of cancers, the terms encephaloid and medullary, as applied to cancers of the breast, can be dispensed with, and wisely so, seeing that most of the tumours so designated find their proper place among the sarcomata. To

the subject of cancer of the male breast, which in most treatises receives but scanty notice, an entire chapter is devoted, in which the results of the examination of 100 cases collected by the author are detailed. The difficult question of the etiology of cancer is manfully faced, the various predisposing causes thoroughly and carefully investigated, and after a fair statement and careful examination of the facts for and against the microbic theory of cancer, the author arrives at the conclusion that "the microbe of cancer has not yet been discovered, because in all probability it does not exist."

The other tumours of the breast are treated with a fulness proportionate to their frequency of occurrence and pathological interest. Ample justice is done to the subject of sarcoma, under which heading are grouped the adeno-sarcoma, the exceedingly rare pure sarcoma, the equally rare so-called alveolar sarcoma, the myxoma and keloid, and its allies. The simple tumours, both solid and cystic, are handled in the same skilful manner, the writer emphasising his very warrantable belief that probably all the recorded cases of "*true adenoma*"—*i.e.*, of tumours structurally exactly like a segment of the breast itself, only not united to the gland by its main duct, are nothing more or less than overgrown supernumerary mammary sequestrations.

Inflammation, suppuration, tuberculosis, and syphilis form the text of the more important concluding chapters of the work.

The illustrations, which are in most cases borrowed, and in all acknowledged, are judiciously selected, and might with advantage be increased in number.

In conclusion, we have only to express to the author the great pleasure which the perusal of his volume has afforded us, and to congratulate him on having produced what must be regarded as the leading monograph on the subject.

Leçons de Chirurgie. Par Le DR. FÉLIX LEJARS, Professeur Agrégé à la Faculté de Médecine de Paris, Chirurgien des Hôpitaux. Paris: G. Masson. 1895.

DR. LEJARS' forty-seven clinical lectures constitute a volume of 620 pages, and deal with a large number of surgical topics. While they contain nothing original, they afford instructive and pleasant reading. In any language the lecture style of composition readily lends itself to whatever powers of graphic description and illustration the writer may possess. In the French this is, perhaps, peculiarly so, and in the volume before