

## REVIEWS.

**Sallard.**—*Les Amygdalites Aigues.* ("The Acute Inflammations of the Tonsils.") Paris: Rueff et Cie. 1892. Bibliothèque Médicale: Charcot-Debove.

THIS is an excellent little work of two hundred and forty-pages—a careful study of the acute inflammations of the tonsils, upon which so much good work has been done in late years, especially by French clinicians. The subject is studied according to the following plan:—

1. Non-suppurative tonsillitis (catarrhal, follicular, parenchymatous).
2. True suppurative tonsillitis (intra-tonsillar limited to the parenchyma).
3. Peritonsillitis (pharyngeal and lingual).
4. Anomalous forms of tonsillitis.

The etiology of the disorder is considered fully from a micro-biological point of view, and Sallard thinks that the hypothesis which regards tonsillitis as a general infectious disorder, a fever of which the angina is only a manifestation, is the most rational and most in keeping with the majority of facts.

The so-called "infectious tonsillitis" forms are carefully discussed, and the author's work is replete with information and references to modern scientific and clinical work.

Suffice it to say that this little book is a most instructive essay upon the subject of tonsillitis, original in its method of dealing with the subject, and scientific in its treatment of the same. The whole subject of "tonsillitis" has been so long enshrouded in confusion that we welcome the efforts of the author to reduce the subject to some method, and place it on a scientific basis. As everyone in practice sees daily so many cases of tonsillitis—many of extremely anomalous type—so every practitioner will arise from the perusal of the author's readable essay with a sense of enlightenment upon a very obscure and difficult subject.

*R. Norris Wolfenden.*

**Bourges.**—*La Diphthérie.* ("Diphtheria.") Paris: Rueff et Cie. 1892. Bibliothèque Médicale: Charcot-Debove.

THIS is another excellent essay of two hundred and twenty-six pages, forming one of the series of short text-books of Rueff's Medical Library.

Dr. Bourges studies the subject from the standpoint that "diphtheria is a contagious disease due to the bacillus discovered by Klebs, and studied by Loeffler."

At the point of infection the development of the bacillus determines a fibrinous false membrane. It never invades the organism, but may develop at many points, and produces an active poison (Roux and Yersin), easily diffusible in the circulation. There are two sets of symptoms—one local, producing "mechanical" accidents, due to false membrane; the other general, due to poisoning by the diphtheritic toxine.