

technical teacher enables him to put the book into a succinct form, suitable alike for the worker and for the student. The volume is also to be recommended to the general seeker after knowledge of the printing arts.

Modern Telephotography; a Practical Manual of Working Methods and Application. By Captain Owen Wheeler. Pp. 80. (London: Ross, Ltd., 1910.) Price, paper, 1s. 6d.; bevelled boards, 2s. 6d.

CAPTAIN OWEN WHEELER is an enthusiastic and successful user of telephotographic lenses, and in this small volume he sets down his experiences in plain language, and gives the rules that he has found serviceable. He refers only to the lenses issued by the publishers, but this is the only drawback to an eminently practical and useful treatise. Seeing that the one advantage of a telephotographic lens is that it gives the image on a larger scale, without the need for an equivalent length of camera, and that it is as applicable to near as to distant objects, the photography of near objects is very meagrely dealt with. But this is rather an advantage than otherwise, as it indicates that the author treats only with those matters of which he has had considerable experience.

The two details that the author's name is chiefly associated with are the use of a hood in front of the lens to cut off extraneous light, and the use of negative lenses of different powers for different magnifications, instead of trusting to variations in the length of the camera. It is hardly too much to say that, trivial as these details appear, Captain Owen Wheeler has by means of them revolutionised the practice of outdoor telephotography. He truly claims that his photographs bear no sign of their special method of production, the flatness and fog so often present being completely obviated. The long hood that he first caused to be available had a rectangular opening in front, and was of liberal dimensions—here he seems to refer only to telescoping tubes little, if any, larger than the outside of the lens mount. If this is so, it is distinctly a step backwards in efficiency, though the aluminium tubes may be more appreciated by the manufacturing optician. Concerning the choice of lenses, with an ordinary half-plate camera and a lens of about seven inches focal length, and a camera extension of fourteen inches, the author advises negative lenses from about 2½-inches to 1-inch focal length, the last giving an equivalent focal length of about 8 feet, or a magnification of about fourteen diameters. The aperture of such a combination obviously must be small, but he does not find diffraction to interfere vitally with definition, even at an aperture of $f/480$. There are many excellent illustrations in the book, and a final chapter on telephotography as applied to the special requirements of the army and navy.

C. J.

A Text-Book of Nervous Diseases. By Dr. W. Aldren Turner and T. Grainger Stewart. Pp. xvii+607. (London: J. and A. Churchill, 1910.) Price 18s. net.

THIS book has been written for the purpose of providing the practitioner and senior student with a short and practical account of the diseases of the nervous system, and is not expected to take the place of the larger works on the same branch of medicine. Owing to the limitation placed upon the size of the book, the description of certain disorders, such as myxœdema and acromegaly, usually contained in works of this description, has been omitted. This we cannot but regard as an advantage, for there seems no scientific reason why diseases of ductless glands should be catalogued with diseases of the nervous system.

It is of the utmost importance, in dealing with

organic nervous affections, that the student should possess an efficient knowledge of anatomy, and be acquainted with some methodical plan for the clinical examination of the nervous system. We are happy to find in this work a short but clear and satisfactory description of the various tests which are available to inform us as to whether a given system is normal or not. There is no obfuscating mass of detail from which the student has by long experience to abstract the useful and eliminate the comparatively unimportant, but a clear, succinct presentment of all that is really essential. The anatomical chapters are similarly well rendered. The book, so far as organic nervous disorder is concerned, is singularly replete, and we can think of no recognised affection which has escaped adequate attention. Considering the relative proportion of the incidence of organic and of the so-called functional disorders, we cannot but regard it as rather a pity that more space has not been devoted to the symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of the latter class. Herein, however, the authors are only following the trend of British neurology, which has always been rather in the direction of the study of organic disease. In these days, when such an enormous amount of work is being done by non-scientific bodies in the treatment of functional maladies, it becomes very necessary for the trained physician, with his infinitely superior opportunities, to make himself familiar with therapeutic measures suitable for such ailments. Only in this way can unfortunate sufferers be saved from those errors of diagnosis which untrained and self-constituted professors of certain modes of therapeutics are frequently making, and which are so often of fatal consequence. The illustrations and diagrams with which the book is garnished are admirable, and are most helpful in illuminating the text. The work cannot, we think, fail to be of assistance to those for whom it is intended, that is, to the student and practitioner.

Australasian Medical Congress. Transactions of the Eighth Session held in Melbourne, Victoria, October, 1908. Vols. i., ii., iii. (Victoria: J. Kemp, Melbourne, 1909.)

THESE three volumes of transactions are sure evidence, if that were needed, of the activity of our kinsfolk over the sea in matters medical. It is quite impossible in a short space to deal with their subject-matter, which embraces the whole range of medicine, surgery and gynaecology, anatomy and physiology, pathology, bacteriology and public health.

Dr. Julian Smith discusses the opsonic test and its applications to tuberculosis. He considers that in competent hands opsonic determinations are trustworthy and accurate, and in many cases invaluable as an aid in diagnosis and a guide to therapeutic measures. Various papers deal with tuberculin and sanatorium treatment in tuberculosis. Prof. Welsh, Dr. Chapman, and Mr. Storey discuss some applications of the precipitin reaction in the diagnosis of hydatid disease. It was found by Welsh and Chapman that the blood serum of a patient suffering from hydatid disease, which is relatively common in Australia, gives a precipitate with the fluid of the hydatid cyst. In the present paper the extension of the test by the use of old hydatid fluids is discussed. Hæmogregarine parasites in a marsupial flying squirrel and in the native cat are described by Drs. Welsh, Barling, Dalyell, and Burfitt, and Dr. Elkington describes a new cestode worm (*Dibothriocephalus parvus*) obtained from a Syrian patient. The volumes are well printed, and illustrated with many excellent plates.