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(From Canada Med. & Surg. Journal.)

Vol 16 ---~~1887~~-88 p. 447

July 1888 NOTES AND COMMENTS

Dr. Weir Mitchell's volumes of Essays, entitled DOCTOR AND PATIENT, while ment for women, may be studied with profit by readers of all classes, lay and medical. Probably no man living has had a wider experience with nervous women, to which large audience these lay sermons are addressed. The four last Essays, Pain and its Consequences, The Moral Management of Sick or Invalid Children, Nervousness and its Influence on Character, and Out-door and Camp-Life for Women, are well adapted to fulfil their purpose, as they deal "helpfully with some of the questions which a weak or nervous woman, or one who has been there, would wish to have answered." A charmingly-written Essay on CONVALESCENCE describes the delightful sensations, mental and bodily, attendant upon recovery from serious illness. In remarks upon the value of novels during this period, Dr. Mitchell takes occasion to discuss the Doctor in fiction, and concludes that, with the exception of Lydgate in George Eliot's Middlemarch, he is wholly unsatisfactory.

We may gather from these Essays the secret of Dr. Mitchell's great success - a naturally keen intellect, strong professional instincts of the best kind, a profound knowledge of human nature, particularly of the frailer portion of it, and living faith in the value of dietetic and hygienic measures in the treatment of the sick.

WILLIAM OSLER.

*Dr. Osler's kind thing for him in the Lib
his frequent note & letters to the journal*