influence of such photos in the prognosis and treatment of such cases.

Dr. J. A. C. Macewen showed a sebaceous horn of the scalp, which he had removed from a woman.

Dr. R. G. Inglis narrated a case of acute inversion of the uterus coming on a few hours after labour, and unaccompanied by shock or haemorrhage, but causing very severe labour-like pain. Restitution took place on very slight upward pressure.

Dr. A. N. McLellan gave notes of two cases where spontaneous replacement took place in the pregnant retroverted uterus.

REVIEWs.

The Practical Medicine Series, Comprising Ten Volumes on the Year's Progress in Medicine and Surgery. Under the General Editorial Charge of Gustavus P. Head, M.D. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers. 1906. Authorised Agents for Great Britain: G. Gillies & Co., 28 Gibson Street, Glasgow.

Concentration is the order of the day. It affects the literary world, manifesting itself in different encyclopædias, dictionaries, and snippety extracts. The output of general literature is so great that the bewildered reader, with only occasional free evenings, is glad of getting even a nodding acquaintance with the productions of the past ages and the present. The same conditions animate medical and surgical activity; periodicals are so numerous that the busy and panting doctor often satisfies himself with the journalistic articles which, either on account of their authorship or the subjects discussed, appeal to him most directly at the time. An opening is thus given to "Retrospects," "Annuals," "Yearly Records," and books with similar titles, which seem to supply a felt want, and therefore find a market. The "Practical Medicine Series," comprising ten volumes of the year's progress in medicine and surgery, of which series five volumes will be referred to in this notice, is being offered to the profession for two guineas; while any volume can be had separately at a slight increase of price.

Volume I: General Medicine, edited by Drs. Billings and
Salisbury, deals, *inter alia*, with tuberculosis, pneumonia, syphilis, asthma, cardiac troubles, blood diseases, general infectious disorders, and affections of the kidneys and glands, and it is freely illustrated. Quotations and references are necessarily numerous, but pleasant reading is not interrupted. The introduction of one hundred topics indicates that the editors have aimed at comprehensive usefulness, albeit typhoid and other fevers are left to a succeeding volume.

Volume II: General Surgery, edited by Dr. John B. Murphy, is a thicker book than vol. i, and is marked with a true sense of the increasing importance, and the fair limits, of operative surgery. Much attention is given to radiotherapy, tuberculosis of bone, cerebral tumours, fractures, and abdominal diseases and injuries. We have not had cause to share in the fear expressed regarding saline irrigation of the general peritoneal cavity after an operation. This volume is illustrated, and has an index of fifteen pages, making it easy for reference.

Volume III: issued under the divided editorship of Drs. Wood, Andrews, and Gustavus Head, is devoted to the disorders of the Eye, the Ear, Nose and Throat, and takes up many important and obscure topics. The general practitioner will here find not a few useful hints, and the book will be a safe guide to him to consult regarding points where an expert opinion is desirable. There is a general index to the three departments, and some pathological conditions and operating instruments are depicted.

Volume V: Obstetrics, discusses many features in pregnancy, difficult labour, the puerperium, and injuries and diseases of the newborn babe. There are almost no references to British obstetricians. Illustrations of uterine dilators and other instruments are given. Dr. Joseph de Lee, with the assistance of Drs. Rochler and Stowe, is the editor.

Volume VI, like the first volume, deals with General Medicine, and is compiled by the same editors. Gastric troubles, enteric fever, and other abdominal complaints, have much attention. In the treatment of enteric the routine administration of milk is excluded, and prepared beef-juice and white of egg, with sterilised water and a few drops of hydrochloric acid, recommended.

Unlike Sydney Smith, who claimed for a “Review” that its object is “to make men wise in ten pages, who have no appetite for a hundred pages; to condense nourishment, to work with pulp and essence, and to guard the stomach from idle burden and unmeaning bulk,” the chief editor of these volumes, Dr. Gustavus P. Head, modestly says, “It is not the
province of this series to quote from every good article of the year, but to so choose from the good material that no valuable thought of the year shall fail of presentation."

We are content with this explanation of the plan of selection, and shall conclude meantime by saying that these volumes, in their handsome crimson bindings, will be not only ornamental on the doctor's shelf, but may prove eminently useful for reference and consultation.

A Short Practice of Medicine. By Robert A. Fleming, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.E., F.R.S.E. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1906.

There are now so many excellent text-books on the practice of medicine for the student to choose from that one cannot but be somewhat critical of a new-comer; for one knows that it also must reach a standard of excellence if it is to have any continued existence. But Dr. Fleming claims that "there are few small-sized manuals that fill a place in the library which the present volume is intended to occupy"; and in this way, as well as on account of its merits, we feel confident that this work will in time come to take its place among the other well-known text-books of medicine.

The general arrangement of the book calls for little comment, as it is that in use with most teachers of the subject. But the descriptions of the symptomatology and pathogenesis of the various diseases are clearly and fluently set forth. At times, however, we note a lack of precision in certain statements, which may give trouble to the junior student. For example, in describing the rash of small-pox, we are told that on "the tenth to the eighteenth day the pustules dry up," but it is not mentioned whether it is the tenth to the eighteenth day of the disease or of the eruption. Again, in dealing with pneumonia, we are told that resolution "may be safely completed in six to nine or eleven days." But it is not clear if this dates from the rigor, from the state of engorgement, or from that of red or grey hepatisation, or if it applies to the stage of resolution only. On the next page (59), ninth line from the foot of the page, surely the word "so" should be omitted. On p. 177 we are told that "Calmette finds that the antivenom obtained by using venom of the cobra de capello is capable of counteracting all venoms, including that of scorpions." This, however, has been so sufficiently denied by the most recent workers on the
subject of snake venoms as to make the statement inadmissible in the students' text-book.

The section on diseases of the nervous system we regard as the best in the book. It is very complete and up to date, and if we have a fault to find with it, it is that it contains too much, that it is too condensed. The illustrations, too, in this section add greatly to its elucidation.

Of the book as a whole we have a good opinion, and we predict for it a wide circulation.

Third Treatise on the Effects of Borax and Boric Acid on the Human System. By Dr. Oscar Liebreich. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1906.

This is essentially a hostile criticism of the report of Dr. H. W. Wiley, Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the Secretary of Agriculture. Undoubtedly Dr. Liebreich points out many possibilities of fallacy in the conduction of and deductions from the experiments carried out by Dr. Wiley; but such destructive criticism is always easy, and Dr. Liebreich advances no decisive reasons to show why Dr. Wiley's conclusions are not as accurate as any which may be drawn from experimental evidence in general. On an impartial consideration of the pamphlet the evidence advanced by Dr. Wiley may be considered to outweigh Dr. Liebreich's consistent negatives.

The Climate of Lisbon and of the two Health Resorts, Mont Estoril and Cintra. By Dr. D. G. Dalgrado. London: H. K. Lewis. 1906.

"There can be little doubt," says a living author, "that among the predisposing causes of ailment, climate must be taken into account. The exact position on the earth's surface occupied by individuals or nations implies a certain risk of special diseases on the one hand, or escape and immunity from disease on the other. There is little doubt that climate exercises a prominent and potent effect in modifying disease."

The belief in the influence of climate is universal, and, consequently, physicians are usually ready to consider any suggestion for a change that may benefit their patients.
Dr. Dalgrado writes with a vigour of pen, a knowledge of English literature and ways, and a minute acquaintance with his subject, general and topical. He establishes a good plea for these two health resorts. The season at Mont Estoril is from 15th November to 15th March. The rainfall is slight, the atmosphere is dry, and the general attractions of the country are many. No consumptives need apply at the hotels, for under Portuguese law phthisis is notifiable, and the hotelkeeper is obliged to disinfect apartments vacated by a consumptive, and to keep reserved linen and crockery for any unfortunate patient. Being out of practice for six months, our author's remarks are not those of a special pleader; indeed, he is both instructive and interesting, and, as originally delivered, the paper was well received at the recent Lisbon Medical Congress.

Traité d'Hygiène. Fasciculus I: Atmosphère et Climats. By JULES COURMON and CH. LESIEUR. Paris: J. B. Baillière et Fils. 1906.

This is the first fasciculus of a treatise of hygiene which is to be composed of twenty fasciculi in all, the treatise being under the editorial direction of Professor Brouardel and Dr. E. Mosny. In a joint preface the editors indicate the scope of the individual parts of the treatise, each part to be self-contained, and to be sold separately if desired.

This fasciculus on atmosphere and climates is from the pens of the writers above-named, the former writer dealing with atmosphere and the latter with climatology. M. Courmont divides the discussion of his subject under the following heads:—(1) The chemical properties of the air, (2) the physical properties, (3) the contained inert particulate matter, and (4) the living corpuscular matter, including microorganisms and moulds.

After full discussion of these, he devotes some attention to the methods for artificially regenerating the air of confined spaces, in which, for long, natural respiration could not be sustained. He describes fully the apparatus of MM. Desgrez and Balthazard, in which by the decomposition of sodium dioxide (NaO₂) by water oxygen is liberated, and the carbon dioxide given off from the lungs is absorbed by the sodium oxide which remains. This apparatus has been devised for use in submarine vessels, and on the smaller scale for firemen, miners, sewermen, and others whose work upon occasion
compels them to enter into irrespirable atmospheres. A figure of the apparatus is given. But little attention, however, is paid to the subject of compressed air, as in caissons, a subject which must be deemed of no little importance in these days of daring engineering schemes.

The action of light as a germicidal agent receives due attention, but mere references are made to the Finsen light and the Roentgen rays. Regarding the influence of electrical states of the atmosphere on human life, the author very properly declares that practically nothing is known. The subject of production of smoke and fumes, relative to their prejudicial effects on vegetation and human life, fog-production, and light-destruction, is duly discussed. The author declares this prejudicial action to be mainly due to the corrosive gases and formic aldehyde produced by the consumption of coal and wood, but he omits any mention of arsenical gases from the arsenic which is present in most coal in relatively small percentages in combination with sulphur. Recent investigations in this city and neighbourhood indicate that these play a more important part in the destruction of vegetation than has hitherto been conceived. Like many other writers of late, the author urges the clamant need in industrial communities for the general adoption of means of smoke-consumption, in order to abate what is a serious menace to healthy and comfortable existence.

Speaking of the pathological rôle played by inorganic particulate matter in the air, he refers to anthracosis, pneumocosis, and, among other conditions, to "la maladie des garrister." What the author evidently alludes to as "garrister" ought to be "gannister" or "ganister," a dense, siliceous stone which is quarried in certain parts of England, and which is ground into powder for the making of bricks which have to withstand intense heat. The grinding of this stone produces on the workers serious disease of the lungs, due to the sharpness of the particles of silica.

Dealing with the plague of dust of streets and roads, due mainly in recent years to the traffic of automobiles, attention is given to different methods which have been invented to minimise it.

Climatology is from the pen of M. Lesieur, who is head of the Bacteriological Institute of Lyons. Like all climatologists, he adopts the classification of climates which appeals to him, although he says, very fairly, that if too rigorous attention be paid to any one classification, errors and difficulties are bound to emerge. Starting from temperate climates, he brings
under review maritime climates, climates of altitude, warm, torrid, cold, and polar climates, relative to their meteorological characteristics, their influence on man in health and disease, and their hygienic and prophylactic applications. Temperate climates, he says, are to be found between the isothermal lines $+15^\circ$ and $+5^\circ$; the influence of the Gulf Stream affecting the boundaries of the latter isotherm; warm climates, between the isotherms $+25^\circ$ and $+15^\circ$; torrid or tropical climates, between the equator, $25^\circ$, and the isothermal line $+25^\circ$; cold climates, between $+5^\circ$ and $-5^\circ$; and polar climates, between $-5^\circ$ and $-15^\circ$. Under each of the above classes of climate there is given a geographical distribution of localities, and a discussion of the physiological and pathological influences on man. Such a classification of climates, it will be observed, is based on lines of equal temperature relative to place, but takes no regard to time, in which respect it fails as a complete classification.

Acclimatisation is discussed with reference to colonisation and the progress of nations. While it cannot be said there is anything new in the book, a great deal of information has been succinctly and clearly brought together in the 122 pages of text in well-ordered arrangement. It will prove a useful work.

**Diabetes Mellitus: Its Pathological Chemistry and Treatment,**

*being Part VII of Several Clinical Treatises on the Pathology and Therapy of Disorders of Metabolism and Nutrition.*

By Prof. Dr. Carl von Noorden. Authorised translation under the direction of Boardman Reed, M.D. Bristol: John Wright & Co. 1906.

This is one of the most important and interesting of this valuable series of clinical treatises, and none the less so, perhaps, though it contains a good deal that is theoretical, and a good deal that will not be accepted by every student of the great problem of the origin of diabetes. The author maintains that phloridzin-glycosuria is undoubtedly due to increased permeability of the kidneys to sugar, and that the sugar in the blood in this condition is accordingly below the normal; while in every other kind of glycosuria, whether spontaneous or experimental, hyperglycemia is present, and is the immediate cause of the glycosuria. He accepts the doctrine of the glycogenic function of the liver, and regards the peculiarity of the diabetic constitution as consisting in the loss of the capacity
of the liver, muscles, and, perhaps, the glands, to take the circulating glucose from the blood, and to store it as glycogen. He says, moreover, that the natural food of the tissue cells is not glucose, but glycogen, whence it follows that the power of burning off the carbohydrates is lost in diabetes. The cells are bathed in a superfluity of sugar, and yet are hungry for sugar because they cannot use it.

With regard to the connection between the pancreas and diabetes, our author puts forward the hypothesis that that organ supplies to the blood either a ferment which favours the process of polymerisation in the formation of glycogen, or an antiferment which prevents too rapid destruction of glycogen.

The later sections of the work deal with the acetone bodies, other changes in metabolism in diabetes, the general course and prognosis of diabetes, and the treatment of diabetes. Food tables are given in an appendix. There is no index, but the table of contents at the beginning is very well arranged.

We can heartily recommend this book to the profession. The reputation of the author should secure the most careful attention for its contents, and we have pleasure in testifying to the excellence of the English translation.

German Grammar for Science Students. By W. A. Osborne, M.B., D.Sc., and Ethel E. Osborne, M.Sc. London: Whittaker & Co. 1906.

This little volume is designed to meet the needs of students of science in universities and technical colleges who have little or no knowledge of German, and yet require to consult or read German scientific papers and treatises. If such students are unable to take a regular course of German they may safely be recommended to study this grammar. We have pleasure in reporting upon it favourably.

Transactions of the Medico-Legal Society for the Year 1904-1905. Vol. II. London: Baillière, Tindall, & Cox.

Quite a number of interesting papers are collected in this volume. "An Obscure form of Alcoholism involving irresponsibility," by T. C. Shaw, M.D., is a valuable contribution to a very difficult subject, as shown by the somewhat diverse
views held by those taking part in the discussion after the paper.

"Definitions of Accident, Accidental, Accidentally," by Stanley Atkinson, M.A., M.B., gives a list of decisions which may be helpful in many doubtful cases.

"The Proposed Sterilization of Certain Degenerates," a discussion opened by Dr. Robert Reid Rintoul, suggests voluntary vasectomy in the case of sane degenerates of certain types, and spermectomy in the case of the insane. Of the members of the Society who took part in the discussion the majority were against the remedy suggested.

"A Case of Disputed Fracture of the Clavicle," by J. G. Garson, M.D., shows the difficulty in some cases of forming a definite opinion in certain obscure cases, although the use of the x-rays cleared up the point thirty-four weeks after the accident.

Among other articles "The Law relating to the Responsibility of the Criminal Insane," by A. D. Cowburn; "Professional Secrecy and Privileged Communications," by A. G. Bateman, M.B.; and "On Suicide," by William Wynn Westcott, M.B., are the most noteworthy.

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The Combined Treatment of Diseases of the Eye. By HERBERT BURNHAM. London: H. K. Lewis. 1906.

This is a book which we scarcely like to criticise, because its standpoint is so entirely different from ours. In his preface the author cites Lister's ideas as being a sort of model for his own. He says—"For a long time it has been the custom of our teachers to devote themselves to the study of the symptoms, pathology, diagnosis, &c., of disease, and to give to the treatment, that with which the people are the most concerned, a superficial notice." Again, he says in his preface—"Lord Lister by his discoveries gave the first great impetus to the idea that by devotion to the cure of disease were we to mount up to our true level in the body politic." The author seems not to recognise the fact that if ever a man tried to found treatment upon what ought to be its proper basis, a correct pathology, Lister was that man. His outstanding merit seems to us to have been that he was the first to try and explain pathological processes on a biological basis. In his work he was just as far removed from the empiric as it was possible for any man to be. It certainly will be news to most
men who have read Lister’s papers in the *Philosophical Transactions* and elsewhere to learn that he disregarded pathology, and set himself to cure diseases. That, however, is Dr. Burnham’s attitude towards ophthalmic practice. There is no need to give much attention to symptoms, much less to the pathology of disease. The one thing of importance is its treatment, and, fortunately, that is simple enough. Almost every form of malady, from conical cornea to sympathetic ophthalmitis, will yield under the magical influence of the hypodermic injection of pilocarpine, combined with the internal administration of iodide of potassium and mercury.

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*A Treatise on Diagnostic Methods of Examination.* By Prof. Dr. Hermann Sahli. Edited, with Additions, by Francis P. Kinnicutt, M.D., and Nath’l Bowditch Potter, M.D. Authorised Translation from the Fourth Revised and Enlarged German Edition. London: W. B. Saunders & Co. 1906.

This is a remarkable work, which deserves careful study by all who are interested in the scientific study of medicine. Even the preface, which is a long one, is rather a remarkable piece of work. The author tells us that the present volume is not a mere compilation; but, on the contrary, is based almost throughout on his personal experience. The work, therefore, is one which ought to be often quoted, but this is not the case; because, as Prof. Sahli supposes, it is generally assumed nowadays that text-books, apart from large systems by many writers, are mere compilations which do not contain anything new, the tendency being for all actually new matter to find its way to periodical literature.

Fortunately, however, this great treatise by the Bern professor has commended itself to the medical profession, and four German editions have been issued, viz., in 1894, 1899, 1902, and 1905. Some brief additions have been made to the English edition by the American editors, and the book, which was printed in September, 1905, had to be reprinted in February of the present year (1906). The scope of the work is ambitious, and is only indicated in the faintest outline by the headings which we take from the table of contents:—Introduction; General condition of the patient; Development and state of nutrition; Examination of the skin; Determination of the body temperature; Character of the respiration;
Character of the voice under pathologic conditions; Cough; Palpation, sphygmography and sphygmmometry of the arterial pulse; Visible phenomena of motion in the vessels; Percussion; Auscultation; Palpation of the lung and pleura; Inspection and palpation of the heart region; Inspection and palpation of the abdomen; Diagnosis of individual valvular lesions, of aortic aneurysms, and of pericarditis; Graphic expressions for the physical signs in pulmonary cases; Examination of the stomach and stomach contents; Examination of the intestine and faces; Urinary examination; Examination of the sputum; Examination of the blood; Laryngoscopy, tracheoscopy, and autoscop y of the larynx and trachea; Rhinoscopy; Ophthalmoscopy; Exploratory punctures and harpooning; Röntgen ray examinations; and Examination of the nervous system. Including the very extensive index, which, of course, is a most important part of a work of this kind, the volume extends to more than one thousand pages.

It is obviously impossible in a short review to give an account of the different portions of a great work like this, which covers so much ground. But we can confidently recommend this book to every physician who wishes to do advanced work in clinical medicine. He may turn to it not only for the descriptions of the methods of diagnosis which he may employ, but also for discussions of the explanations of clinical phenomena. It should occupy a prominent place in every clinical laboratory, and should continue to enjoy the success it has already achieved.

The Operating-Room and the Patient. By Russell S. Fowler, M.D. London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1906.

The dedication of this volume is peculiar; it announces the appearance of "a much larger volume upon post-operative treatment."

The text is arranged in seven chapters, dealing with the following subjects:—The operating-room and its personnel, the instrument and supply-room, anaesthesia, the patient, general considerations in after-treatment, and, lastly, lists of instruments and dressings commonly employed.

The two chapters on the instrument and supply-room are extremely good. The different formulae for iodiform gauze are given fully, but only No. 1 states how much gauze the constituents will impregnate. Similarly, there are various formulae.
for the preparation of catgut, but no mention is made as to the
time which is required for the absorption of a given catgut.

The chapter on anaesthetics is well done, and that on the
preparation and after-treatment of the patient contains many
useful hints.

The details of procedure in different cliniques vary within
wide limits, but we think that Dr. Fowler's book is one which
will be found useful by a large circle of readers.

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_Ninety-second Annual Report of the Glasgow Royal Asylum,
Gartnavel, for the Year 1905._

This report, which is on the lines of previous years, gives Dr.
Oswald's annual report along with other information relative
to the hospital. The statistical tables are interesting, more
especially No. 12, on page 27, dealing with the occupation
or social position in the admissions during the year 1905.
Among 60 males those returned as of "no occupation" amount
to 3, while of 59 females those under the same heading number
20. The reports of Commissioners Fraser and Macpherson on
the working of the institution are entirely satisfactory and
call for no comment.

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_Public Health Legislation and Model Bye-Laws._ By Martin
Elliott, Barrister-at-Law, and Gilbert Elliott, M.R.C.S.
Eng. London: H. K. Lewis. 1906.

This little volume has been "specially prepared for the
Diploma of Public Health," and is dedicated to Dr. B. Anning-
son, Medical Officer of Health, Cambridge. It consists entirely
of a synopsis of the Public Health Acts and other sanitary
laws and regulations applicable to England and Wales. To
this extent it has a certain value, which is added to by a
number of cases illustrative of certain points which have been
decided at law. Chapter VII, dealing with model bye-laws,
is perhaps the most valuable, dealing as it does in a concise
manner with the framing of such regulations. The work will
prove a handy book of reference on the subjects for students
preparing for the D.P.H. of the various examining bodies in
England.