REVIEWS OF 
BRITISH AND FOREIGN LITERATURE.

The Operations of Surgery. By W. H. A. Jacobson and R. P. Rowlands. Fifth Edition. 2 Vols. London: J. & A. Churchill.

In the present edition of this well-known work, which extends to two volumes, each of over 900 pages, the talented and much respected author has had the assistance of Mr. Rowlands in the articles dealing with the abdomen, and of Mr. Bellingham Smith in those dealing with the ovary and uterus. In spite of its gigantic size, it is still declared to be intended not for those with a large surgical experience, but for those who are recently appointed on a hospital staff and those preparing for the higher examinations. It is undoubtedly an excellent book for any one who has begun to specialise in surgery, because the opinions of different authorities are given, usually in their own words, at any rate on all controversial subjects. It might almost be said that Mr. Jacobson has gone out of his way to do justice to the work of others, for the latter is often represented by so many quotations that the reader runs the risk of being embarrassed in his choice of procedure. It might also be said that the thoroughness with which every operative detail is discussed would almost prevent any one consulting the work unless he had a good deal of time to spare.

We cordially approve of the author's retaining the division of the subject matter into regions, the intention being that those for whom the book is intended should study the anatomy of each region at the same time as the account of the operations; but surely in the teaching of operative surgery there are subjects which have to be considered from the general point of view; we might instance anaesthetics and wound technique. It certainly appears a little old-fashioned to find under the description of individual operations that "the skin should be disinfected two days before," and other details of a similar character. The arrangement offers also a fair field for criticism, when, under the heading of "the upper extremity," it is found necessary to discuss the whole question of the surgery of tendons in relation to the operative treatment of paralyses, and the author is obliged to take his examples and his illustrations for the most part from the lower extremity.

We have looked through this edition very carefully, and can testify to the enormous amount of information which it contains. Some of the new illustrations, especially those borrowed from the writings of American surgeons, are a decided improvement on those which are retained from former editions.

In concluding this notice, we feel that we have not given Mr. Jacobson and his colleagues sufficient credit for having produced a work of such intrinsic merit, and one in which the writings of surgeons in this country receive a larger measure of recognition than in any other with which we are acquainted.
Gynaecology and Abdominal Surgery. By Howard A. Kelly and
C. P. Noble. Vol. I. London: W. B. Saunders Co.

Kelly and Noble's "Gynaecology and Abdominal Surgery," of which the first volume has been published, will well repay a careful perusal, and will occupy a unique place as a book of reference. In these days it seems to be the fashion to produce works by a congeries of authors, rather than to produce a continuous record of the study and experience of a single individual. Veit, Allbutt, Osler are but a few illustrations of this. Certainly this system has the advantage of presenting a definite monograph by a specialist on each particular subject; but it would be extremely difficult to say upon what subject in gynaecology or abdominal surgery Kelly and Noble are not recognised experts. At the same time such a book lacks that harmonious continuity and evenness of style which are characteristic of a book produced by one man, or even by the collaboration of two.

At the present moment, when the ordinary surgeons seem to be ignoring or ignorant of the fact, it is well that they should be reminded that to gynaecology they owe the triumphs of abdominal surgery, and it is satisfactory to notice that in their introduction the editors press this matter home.

One special feature common to all the articles in this volume is their extreme conciseness and lucidity; there is no overlapping or repetition anywhere, and this conciseness is not achieved by lack of completeness in the work undertaken. The article on "Gynaecological Pathology" is a most excellent example of this feature. The description, for instance, of the various degenerations of fibroids is quite brief but sufficiently exhaustive. Considering the amount of attention which has recently been drawn to the subject, and the mass of literature which has accumulated about it, the description of chorio-epithelioma is somewhat disappointing.

It is agreeable to find a place given to "Medical Gynaecology," a chapter which has been rendered with all the accuracy, clearness, and experience of Dr. Noble.

His introduction is particularly reassuring:

"To value operative treatment only in gynaecology is an error, which perhaps has been frequently made in recent years. On general principles, operative treatment should never be selected when non-operative measures will give results equally as good. The selection of operative or of non-operative measures in a given case depends upon the nature of the condition and upon the social position of the patient. In many gynaecologic diseases nothing but operation can be considered. In others, the patient may be allowed to choose between the non-operative and the operative plan of treatment. The choice will sometimes depend upon the amount of time at her disposal."

Dr. Noble includes in his medical gynaecology a very careful description of displacements and their treatment. Such scarcely fall under this heading, but he explains that his chapter is mainly intended for general practitioners to whom the performance of such work frequently falls—and a most excellent chapter it is.

In the article on "Inoperable Cancer" there is included an important
communication from Dr. Pancoast on the use of the X-rays in its treatment. In reference to this the following is worth quotation:

"With no pretence at conservatism, it may be stated that without exception the X-rays treatment of carcinoma of the uterus and the appendages is to be used only in inoperable cases, or as a post-operative prophylactic measure; in either application it has a range of usefulness of sufficient merit to give it recognition as one of the methods to be frequently employed in the treatment of carcinoma. While it does not accomplish nearly all that has been claimed, it is to be hoped and expected that future study and experience and further improvement in technique and apparatus will lessen the uncertainty of the desired results."

America has always been the home of vesico-vaginal fistula. The original pioneers in this work were Marion Sims and Emmett, and it has been left to Kelly to crown their work by his magnificent researches on the urinary tract. The article before us on fistula is one of the best in the book. There is little left on this subject which one desires to know, that is not comprised in Kelly's twelve concise pages.

Clarence Webster deals with the subject of the removal of the uterine appendages in a thoroughly masterly manner. Beginning with a terse historical survey, he gives a very excellent résumé of the conditions in which the operation should be undertaken; and besides the other more common conditions, he discusses the question of the removal of the ovaries in osteomalacia, distant carcinoma, and in certain mental and nervous disorders, and in conditions of the genital tract—such as the atresias. With regard to the operation, beyond remarking on the excellence of the illustrations, there is nothing to be said. He might have been a little more explicit in the description of the vaginal route.

Concerning the removal of the ovaries for inflammatory conditions, Webster's remarks are well worthy of quotation:

"It is indeed only now that gynaecologists are finding out that the necessity for performing oophorectomy in inflammatory conditions is comparatively rare, the conservative procedure of freeing the ovary from adhesions, incisions, ignipuncture, and resection taking its place in a large number of cases. The recognition of the part that the neurotic element plays in giving prominence to pelvic pains in women has been an important factor in modifying operative treatment."

Noble's chapter on "Hysteromyomectomy" is one of the most complete in the volume, and it is enriched by a very complete bibliography; it embodies in brief the author's exhaustive article, published last year, on the degenerations and complications of fibroid tumours. It gives a very interesting account of the evolution of the operation of hysterectomy for fibroid. The paragraphs on the indications for operation are extremely full and suggestive. He has collected over 2000 consecutive cases, and his deduction is a very striking one: that "in only one-third of the cases of fibroid tumour as seen in the operating-room, does the disease exist in an uncomplicated condition; 30 per cent. of women having fibroid tumours would die without operation in the natural course of the disease and its complications." The author's own opinion clearly indicates the trend of
surgical opinion of the present day, which is that fibroid tumours which produce symptoms, or which are growing, should be removed. Noble's words are:

"It is the opinion of the author that fibroid tumours should be removed for the same reason that ovarian tumours are removed, the indications differing in degree but not in kind. The early removal of ovarian tumours is practised to guard the patient against the known risks of delay in these growths. The same rule should be applied to fibroid tumours. The nature of the indication is quite similar to that for operation for parovarian cyst, hydrosalpinx, salpingitis in its quiescent stage, Graafian follicle cyst, corpus luteum cyst, or the removal of the vermiform appendix in the interval between attacks of appendicitis. A fibroid tumour is more dangerous to life than any of these morbid conditions. The general rule in surgery, that tumours should be removed, is just as applicable in other regions; and this rule of practice should be based upon the life-history of the tumour rather than upon the particular symptoms which are present when the patient comes under observation. Maurice Richardson states an important truth when he says, 'Whenever we postpone operation on fibroid tumours, no matter how benign these tumours may seem, we are running a risk beside which the dangers of an operation are but trivial.'"

The section devoted to the operation is very complete, and the various points in technique are described with a wealth of detail which makes the article specially valuable.

The operations of myomectomy and hysteromyomectomy are compared, and the former practically relegated to cases of pedunculated subperitoneal or pedunculated submucous tumours. The actual operations are clearly described and well illustrated. An urgent and needful plea is made for the careful examination of the uterus, adnexa, and tumour after removal—both in order that one may recognise any malignancy and guard the patient against possible recurrence, and in order that our knowledge of this condition may be increased by the accumulation of facts regarding it.

Radical abdominal hysterectomy for cancer of the uterus is dealt with by Dr. John G. Clark. He summarises the development of the operation up to the present day, and concludes that "the tendency will not be to a further extension of the radical operation." Indeed, he goes further and condemns such extensive operations as Wertheim's in most cases.

Henrotin describes vaginal hysterectomy, and gives an interesting and exhaustive historical sketch of this procedure.

Kelly's article on "Conservative Operations on the Ovaries and Tubes" is characterised by his usual thoroughness. He gives a lucid account of the method of dealing with ovaries so as to save the tissue; and he gives a most complete list of the various conservative operations in gynaecology at present recognised. One is lost in admiration of the exquisite drawings which specially adorn this chapter.

All the articles are well worth perusal, but the limits of a review will not admit of a lengthened reference to each. The whole production of the book—illustrations and letterpress—reflects great credit on the publishers. It is a pleasure to anticipate another such volume.
An Introduction to Child Study. By W. B. Drummond, M.B., F.R.C.P.Ed. London: Edward Arnold.

Child study, though one of the youngest sciences, grows so rapidly, and has developed so extensive a literature, as to make it difficult for those who are not experts to keep pace with its progress. Such a thoroughly good and comprehensive introductory treatise as this, from the pen of an authority like Dr. Drummond, will therefore prove a boon to the ever-growing number of those approaching the subject for the first time. Many people, neither superior nor old-fashioned, look somewhat askance at child study, and it cannot be denied that some of its ephemeral literature is both trivial and inconclusive. It is the great merit of Dr. Drummond's book, that it takes a broad survey of the route which the science pursues, and shows the unity of its aim amidst the diversity of its methods. It would be easy to extract sentences which justify the study of children by appeal to many instincts; we select one which appeals to reason. "The spontaneous activities of children are governed neither by desire for pleasure, nor by fear of pain, but by impulses from within which prompt to action without foresight of results. . . . In such impulses, as they arise, we find the opportunity and hope of the educator." This, in short, is the aim of child study: how best to bring up children so that they may be happy, useful men and women.

The subject matter of the book is very various, but may be roughly divided into four sections. First, we have a discussion of the preparation for and methods of child study; next, an account of bodily development; next comes mental growth; and finally, the moral and religious development. In speaking of the preparation, Dr. Drummond rightly emphasises the need for a training in some branch of science. Apart from its particular application, this chapter is well fitted to remove many popular misconceptions as to what the scientific temper means. Children have been studied by biologists, educationalists, and psychologists, and these methods accordingly fall to be considered, but perhaps the chapter which will be read with most wide interest is that containing the schedule for studying a baby. In this syllabus Henry Drummond's classified list of the emotions, in the order of their development, is quoted from "The Ascent of Man." We greatly doubt whether this order is even approximately accurate, and should have preferred a table drawn up by the author himself. Otherwise the syllabus is admirable. The chapter on fatigue contains references to Mosso's work, and is particularly worthy the study of teachers. In discussing instinct, Dr. Drummond quotes some very remarkable recent researches, tending to show that animal instincts are less stereotyped, and therefore approximate more closely to the impulses of children, than is commonly believed. As the result of an investigation of the interests of Edinburgh school children, the author has confirmed Earl Barnes' observation that younger children are principally interested in the use and action of objects; older children in their substance and form. This gives an obvious hint as to the direction object-lessons should take. The play of children is of great interest from many points of view; we agree that the "preparatory" and "recapitulatory" theories are not mutually exclusive. Groos's theory, we have always thought, is prejudiced by its name. Boys play at soldiers, and girls with dolls, and
thus gratify instincts analogous to those of their fathers and mothers. To call this "preparatory" is true enough in a sense, but it is difficult not to read into the word a teleological implication better avoided. On the other hand, much of the play of children is certainly traditional, and carries with it hints and reminiscences of ancient rites and primitive customs. Many readers will turn with special anticipation to the chapter on religion and children. It is full of evidence of careful thought, and is so sympathetically written as to be incapable of offending any susceptibilities. The idea of applying the culture-epoch theory of religion to the requirements of children at different ages, seems to us singularly fruitful and suggestive, and we feel that we have learned much from Dr. Drummond's thoughtful pages.

Dr. Drummond is so well known as an authority on child study that it is not necessary to say more in praise of the contents of this volume. It is not only a most useful and instructive, but a very charming and scholarly work, the mere reading of which gives pleasure, apart from its more solid merits. The author is especially to be congratulated on his selection of quotations for the chapter headings; they are without a single exception extraordinarily appropriate, and really adorn the book. It cannot fail to achieve the great popularity it merits.

On Treatment. By Harry Campbell, M.D., F.R.C.P. London: Baillière, Tindall, & Cox.

As those familiar with other of Dr. Campbell's writings might expect, this volume, on treatment, is refreshingly original, and differs wholly from the ordinary text-book of therapeutics. Since the prevention and cure of disease is the sole justification the physician has to offer for his existence, Dr. Campbell begins by considering how he had best be trained to that end, and it is undeniable that there is much justice in many of the criticisms he passes on the present-day teaching of medical students. There is no doubt, for instance, that the collection, classification, and memorising of symptoms tends to become an end rather than a means; but is there not this to be said for the "ultrasymptomatologist"—that as time goes on he is able to identify fresh groupings of symptoms, and that, after all, to recognise a new disease is the first step to its cure? In one of his essays on education, Huxley remarks that the great end of life is not knowledge but action, and that success in every kind of practical life is not dependent solely, or even chiefly, on knowledge; the same notion seems to run through a great deal of Dr. Campbell's writing. His first dozen chapters deal with such topics as the physician's personality, his relations to patients and colleagues, to quackery, humbug, fads, and systems of treatment,—all of which are discussed in a common-sense vein, and without the intrusion of everyday platitudes. The second half of the volume is more directly concerned with actual treatment, or perhaps we should say with the maintenance of personal hygiene. Among the topics considered are fresh air, clothing, exercise, and, in particular, diet. Dr. Campbell approaches the question of food from the evolutionary standpoint; he has obviously bestowed much thought on the evolution of man's food habits, and has gathered together a great deal of interesting evidence
bearing on the subject. His views on mastication appear to us thoroughly sound and worthy of due consideration. The book is not, as we have said, a treatise on the management of individual diseases, which are only now and then alluded to, chiefly in the form of actual case histories; it is a thoughtful essay on healthy living, and how the physician can best enforce its laws on his patients. The author is an original and forcible writer, and his book is one which anybody may read with pleasure, and from which nearly every one, according to his temperament, will learn something useful.

A Text-book of the Science and Art of Obstetrics. By Henry J. Garrigues, A.M., M.D. Second Edition. London: J. B. Lippincott Company.

One cannot read this, the second, edition without being impressed by the fact that the whole work has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date. It was pointed out with regard to the first edition, that the author had erred somewhat in neglecting the work of others on important subjects. This volume also bears the stamp of the author's personal observation and experience, but in discussing the more debatable subjects, such as eclampsia, Caesarean section, and hebotomy, fuller reference is made to the abundant recent literature. The work is, however, by no means burdened by a record of varying opinions, and still preserves the character claimed for it by the author—that of text-book, and not a work of reference.

One is amused to read that, in the conduct of normal labour when no trained nurse is available, Dr. Garrigues insists on the presence of the husband in the room. He says the least the author of her trouble can do is to witness her sufferings. "Woe to those thin-blooded, pale-faced, selfish men who declare they cannot see blood, and who keep away from home, or retire to another room, in order not to hear the cries of their wives in labour. They are unworthy of a woman's love"!

With that we cannot agree, and would with pleasure never see the husband till we congratulate him on the birth.

Turning from sentimental to more practical points, one notes that the author always expresses the placenta by compressing the uterus by both hands. In the majority of cases we find one hand, as recommended by Credé, sufficient, but there is no doubt that the method described succeeds occasionally when the other fails, and this is not sufficiently emphasised in most English text-books. Dr. Garrigues has not used medullary cocaineisation in labour, and does not intend to do so. Like most obstetricians, he finds chloroform the ideal anaesthetic in midwifery. One is surprised to find tapping of ovarian cysts during pregnancy recommended, so as to defer ovariotomy till after the puerperium. This view will not be endorsed by British obstetricians. The author still believes that the use of electricity to destroy an extra-uterine foetus does not deserve absolute condemnation, if the method is practised early.

In view of recent discussion, it is interesting to note that Dr. Garrigues approves of compression of the aorta in the treatment of post-partum haemorrhage. It diminishes the blood supply to the uterus
by one-half, but he adopts all the other usual methods at the same time. It seems to us that he does not make sufficient distinction between hemorrhage during the third stage and true post-partum. The value of artificial expression of the foetus is discussed: it is said to be of especial value when the retraction ring has receded high up. One cannot understand this, as it is just in those cases that one would fear rupture from expression. Dührssen's deep cervical incisions are not recommended, and the author prefers dilatation of the os uteri to vaginal Cæsarean section, which he would limit to those cases where the cervix is undilatable. The operation of hebotomy is described in detail, and its great advantages over symphysectomy are fully discussed.

The chapter on puerperal infection is the best we have read on the subject. Every possible septic complication is described, and the appropriate remedy suggested. The author has no faith in anti-streptococcic serum nor in hysterectomy for sepsis. Towards the end of the work there are several most useful chapters on minor ailments of the puerpera and of the new-born child.

This text-book on obstetrics is a most reliable and readable one. The details of treatment alone—a strong feature of the work—will commend the book to student and practitioner alike, and we feel confident that it will take its place among the foremost of the many excellent works on obstetrics that now are published.

The Principles and Practice of Dermatology. By William Allen Pusey, A.M., M.D. London: Sidney Appleton & Co.

There are two methods by which the date of a progressive science are recorded. In one, the author issues at intervals amended editions of his treatise, incorporating with the previous statements notices of fresh advances. But there is a limit to revision, partly because the introduced matter fails in time to harmonise well with the old, excision and remodelling being deficient, and partly because the writer finds increasing difficulty in keeping himself thoroughly abreast of the forward movement. This is intensified should the duty of recasting be entrusted to another hand, since then the patching becomes ever more and more conspicuous. Hence the other plan is necessary which consists in successive minds taking up the subject. In this way something of the old may be lost, but the growth of knowledge is better exhibited. We hail, therefore, this most recent exponent of dermatology, especially since he proves himself competent both in acquaintance with his material and in capacity for lucidly expounding it. One-sixth is devoted to the principles and the remainder to the practice. He makes a good impression at the outset by the way in which he treats the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the skin. This is thoroughly up to date, and the details are so clearly laid down and so judiciously and fully illustrated, that the picture conveyed on perusal is accurate and withal simple. Much the same may be said as to the principles of treatment. Here perhaps the newer methods are even better presented than the older. We have not read anywhere a fairer, if brief, description of opsonins and serum medication, or a more concise account of the mode of action of and the indications for Röntgen therapy, than is here given. While we
do not wholly agree with Pusey in his averments as to some of the time-honoured remedies and their employment, on the whole there is very little of importance omitted, and less to take exception to. Classification of skin diseases is a thorny topic, and the time has not yet arrived for a wholly satisfactory one. "The best that can be done in the present state of our knowledge is to group them as far as possible upon the basis of their resemblance in essential features." That adopted is Hebra's slightly modified.

Passing to the practice, we turn almost involuntarily to eczema as the touchstone whereby to test the merits of the work. Apparently the view as to its nature which commends itself to Pusey is, that this is best determined by considering what it is not. "The eruption of eczema is the same as that of dermatitis, and as the only essential feature of eczema is its eruption, we are forced to the definition that the term eczema connotes various forms of simple dermatitis." And again, "According to this conception, eczema is not a substantive disease, it is not a distinct pathological entity; it is rather a group of symptoms in the skin which can be produced by innumerable causes. And this is the fact." There is no doubt whatever that this idea of eczema is the one most easily grasped, and therefore for all practical purposes the best. It does not include all forms of inflammation in the skin, but we can very readily exclude such as are certainly not eczema. To the popular mind eczema is a term imbued with undefined dread. Why it is so is not by any means clear, but the sense of relief expressed by patients when told that the ailment for which they are seeking advice is not eczema is patent to every one in their altered aspect, if not manifested by words. Eczema seems to occupy the parallel place in the medical sphere as the Apocrypha does in the theocratic. The profession in general are in doubt what is eczema, and treat it hesitatingly; as we have seen the public are afraid of it. The Apocrypha is looked at askance as a mysterious portion of Scripture of dubious validity by the clergy; it is avoided as uncanny by those of the laity who have seen it. This is not the way, however, in which eczema is handled by Pusey. His account of it is clear, terse, and convincing. He says enough, yet does not burden his reader with useless or redundant details. The student will find the section an instructive one, though possibly he may not be able to follow all it covers; to the general practitioner it will prove of superlative value; and even the specialist will discover in it suggestions of utility. We do not say that by a perusal of it the ordinary practitioner will learn how to cure every case of this disease which comes under his care,—Pusey himself does not claim this,—but he will certainly rise from its study better qualified to manage an example of eczema than he was before. And what applies to eczema applies to the entire work, which we have dipped into freely, and read a large part. Its author is singularly well qualified for composing such a treatise. He has set himself to its production after careful examination and assimilation of the contributions of others, while he has amalgamated with this much material drawn from his personal observation, and so has constructed a manual which is a credit to himself and a distinct gain to dermatology in general. We must not close this notice without adverting to the numerous illustrations, which, though in black and
white, in most cases provide an admirable representation of the diseased condition. It is a pity that in so doing the weight of the book is much enhanced; in that sense it is hardly a manual, since it needs to be placed on a sloping surface for comfortable consideration.

**Handbuch der Geburtshülfe.** In drei Bänden, herausgegeben von F. von Winckel. Dritte Band, I. Theil. Wiesbaden: J. F. Bergmann.

This encyclopedic work, edited by Professor von Winckel, resembles in its comprehensiveness Veit's "Handbuch der Gynäcologie," published eight years ago. The first part of the third volume deals with obstetric operations. The description of each operation is prefixed with a most copious bibliography. As showing the enormous industry which has been displayed in this department, it may be mentioned that the list relating to the induction of premature labour occupies nearly thirty pages. A history of each operation is given, followed by the indications for and modes of performance. The operation of symphyseotomy and the more modern hebotomy are described by Kroenig, who does not put sufficient importance on the subcutaneous method of performing the former operation. He leaves the reader uncertain as to whether symphyseotomy or Cæsarean section is preferable, and puts the maternal mortality as being about the same in both (10 per cent.). The article on Vaginal Cæsarean Section is written by Dührsen of Berlin. He has collected 248 cases, with a mortality of 13.3 per cent. He believes it to be the best method of delivery in certain cases of eclampsia. The classical Cæsarean section, written by Kleinhans, is most excellent. The chapter dealing with the induction of premature labour is illustrated with twelve diagrams. The indications are very fully gone into, and the writer concludes that although we have not an ideal method suitable for all cases, Krause's, preceded by hot douches, is the best. Valuable statistics are given of the maternal and fetal results in cases of contracted pelvis, and also details regarding the later conditions of children so delivered. Wyder believes that dilators of the Bossi type have a useful place in operative obstetrics, where rapid delivery is urgently called for, as in cases of eclampsia and accidental haemorrhage. When dealing with version, Sarwey discusses very fully the pros and cons as to which foot to grasp, and recommends that for beginners the lowest and nearest should be chosen, irrespective of the position of the foetus. The method of Braxton Hicks is contributed by the editor, and contains an interesting chapter on the value put on this operation in different countries. Kroenig prefers perforators of the scissor type, and although reference is made to Simpson's basilysis in the bibliography on craniotomy, yet no notice of it appears in the text. The high forceps operation is not enthusiastically recommended, although the advantages of axis traction are admitted, preference being given to the forceps constructed by Breuss, in which traction is made on the handles, the rods acting as indicators. In writing on manual separation of the placenta, Strassman rightly insists on the avoidance of the use of all instruments, such as the curette, and points out the frequency with which the wall of the puerperal uterus is "butterweich." For douching after removal of the placenta, the dangers of alcohol, carbolic, and
sublimate are pointed out, preference being given to sterilised water. Plugging the uterus with gauze is recommended when bleeding continues.

In marked contrast to many modern works on obstetrics, this volume is very scantily illustrated. The bibliographies, however, are more thorough than in any other obstetric work which has ever been published. Taken in conjunction with the other volumes, this work deserves a foremost place in obstetric literature. It will remain a permanent monument to the great industry and enterprise of its editor—one of Germany's greatest obstetricians.

The Johns Hopkins Hospital Reports. Vol. XIII. "Studies in Urological Surgery." Vol. XIV. "Studies on Hypertrophy and Cancer of the Prostate." Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press.

The two volumes of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Reports recently issued are entirely devoted to genito-urinary surgery, and maintain the high standard characteristic of work done in that school. Associate Professor Hugh H. Young, along with his collaborateurs, Doctors Fowks, Churchman, Lehr, Geraghty, Stevens, and Remsen, give in vol. xiii. a series of papers of varying importance, but each paper is valuable and adds to our knowledge of the subject with which it deals. All are educative and go towards the elucidation of a difficult subject—genito-urinary surgery. Stricture of the urethra is discussed by Professor Young, who reports 400 cases in considerable detail. He discountenances divulsion and internal urethrotomy, and strongly advises, in those cases, in which a filiform bougie can be passed, dilatation, which he says is the "foundation-stone in the treatment and cure of stricture." It should be slow and gradual, and should be continued until 30° F. calibre is reached. He believes external urethrotomy a most valuable procedure in impermeable stricture. In seventy-nine of the 400 cases this was adopted, and in thirty, which could be traced, eighteen showed no sign of recurrence. This paper is a valuable résumé of the treatment of stricture, and corresponds very closely to the views of Edinburgh surgeons. It is perhaps justifiable to quote the author further when he says, "At the thirteenth International Medical Congress held in Paris in 1903, the death-knell of internal urethrotomy (as a common procedure) was sounded, and the lasting curative value of dilatation, and its necessity for protracted periods, after all other methods, was unanimously accepted." Nogues's report of 132 cases of internal urethrotomy, "sixty-eight of whom had continued to dilate themselves and were cured, and the sixty-four others, having abandoned all treatment, had recurred," was most convincing as to the efficacy of internal urethrotomy per se.

In a separate paper Professor Young alludes to impermeable stricture, and advocates perineal retrograde catheterisation in preference to retrograde catheterisation through a suprapubic cystotomy.

Dr. Churchman, from experimental work, believes urotropine more efficacious in bacteriuria than salol, and advocates its use as a preventive prior to instrumentation, as it inhibits organismal growth. He believes it to be valuable, as a curative measure, in cases of
bacteriuria, more especially in those cases where there is no cystitis. Others of the papers, *e.g.* cystoscopy in the diagnosis of diseases of the prostate, and chronic prostatitis, are elaborate and instructive, but space does not permit of more than their mention.

Vol. xiv. is wholly given up to an account of prostatic enlargement and carcinoma of the prostate. It is of much interest at the present time, when the battle of the routes is being debated, as in it Professor Young relates in detail his operations by the perineal route for enlarged prostate. His cases number 185, with a mortality of seven, *i.e.* 3.7 per cent. His last sixty consecutive patients have all recovered. The method he uses is, in effect, that of Proust and Albarran, although he makes a great point of trying to preserve the ejaculatory ducts, and it is perhaps unfortunate that he does not give these pioneers more credit for the valuable work they have done. The reliability and success of the method, in Professor Young's hands, is amply shown by the statistics quoted. To the general consideration of the subject, with his personal experience, he devotes 140 pages, and then reports in minute detail 145 cases; this latter portion occupying 330 pages of small type.

An accident occasionally seen in perineal operations is the formation of a recto-urethral fistula, and in 165 cases this has occurred in seven. He believes the risk of this is much diminished by restoring the support of the levator ani muscles by approximating these muscles with a single catgut suture. Should it occur, he believes, it can be easily cured by supplying suprapubic drainage at the time when repair of the fistula is carried out.

The last 130 pages of this volume are devoted to a consideration of "the early diagnosis and radical cure of carcinoma of the prostate." The subject of operation in this condition is still *sub judice.* Many patients only consult a surgeon when it is too late to attempt more than palliative measures, but even in earlier and more favourable cases to excise the disease means a serious operation, which must interfere with the sphincteric region of the bladder. The author reports four cases in which he operated, but the results are far from encouraging. The first died in nine months, and the second in two. The third and fourth were alive at the end of a year, but each had incontinence. In all, the period has been too short to say that recurrence will not take place, and permanent incontinence is a most disabling and unpleasant result. How long and in what degree of comfort would the patients have lived with delay in operation until symptoms arose which necessitated palliative operations?

These two volumes are worthy of the school from which they emanate, and are a magnificent testimony to the indefatigable industry of Professor Young and his coadjutors. They will be most useful for reference, and may be taken as models of how case reports should be done.

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*The Re-education of Co-ordination by Movements, with Special Reference to Locomotor Ataxy, accompanied by Mounted Charts for the Movement Exercises.* By Arthur G. Dampier-Bennett, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Kingstown, Co. Dublin. Bristol: J. Wright & Co.

In this little pamphlet, for it can scarcely be called a book, the author gives a short and very sketchy account of the principles underlying the
treatment referred to in the title. He describes a series of movements which "differ sufficiently from the movements practised by Fraenkel to constitute a distinct method of treatment, though undoubtedly in the same class." The author, it would seem, fails to understand that it is to the principle of treatment, and not to any special series of individual movements, that the name of Fraenkel, which name is spelt without an a, is applied. The statement that "these movements are nevertheless unsuited for use in general practice" is somewhat ambiguous, but if thereby the author intends to imply that the general practitioner is unable to carry out the treatment with any degree of success, the reviewer's experience justifies him in expressing a contrary opinion, for he has seen very satisfactory results in cases treated by general practitioners, who had thoroughly grasped the principle of the method and persevered in its application. It is somewhat unfortunate that the author has not confined his remarks to the re-education of co-ordination by movements, for assertions to the effect that "if the mental symptoms are causing anxiety, Turkish baths are of value; but the purely ataxic symptoms can best be treated by means of carbonic acid baths with which the following co-ordinated exercises may be associated," cannot fail to provoke a spirit of critical scepticism.

The charts which accompany the booklet represent figures for the practice of movements described in the text. Similar exercises may be devised by any intelligent practitioner provided he thoroughly appreciates the principle involved.

Surgical Instruments in Greek and Roman Times. By John Stewart Milne, M.A., M.D., Aberdeen. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

We congratulate Dr. Milne upon this admirable study in a department of archaeology which has, so far, received comparatively little attention.

The work was presented as a thesis for the degree of M.D., and we can well understand that it was successful in gaining the highest honours.

The student of medical history will find in the volume the results of what must have been a most painstaking and laborious investigation into ancient literature, with the object of illustrating and explaining the means by which the old Greek and Roman surgeons were enabled to prosecute their craft.

Laborious though the task may have been, the author has contrived to place before the reader a volume which is as full of interest as it is of erudition. After giving a short account of the chief medical writers of old, there is a chapter upon the materials, execution, and ornamentation employed in the manufacture of the instruments, which are described in succeeding chapters under the headings "knives," "probes," "forceps," "cauteries," "sutures," etc. In addition to a complete bibliography, there is an inventory of the chief instruments to be found in various museums abroad and in this country, together with a large number of photographs, which illustrate and greatly increase the interest of the text.

The book redounds not only to the credit of Dr. Milne and his Alma Mater, but also to that of archaeological science in this country.
Letters on Psychotherapeutics. By Prof. H. Oppenheim. Translate by Alexander Bruce, M.D. Edinburgh: Otto Schultze & Co.

These letters on psychotherapeutics are, in fact, actual letters of candid speaking and sound advice which Professor Oppenheim has from time to time written to neurotic patients. We all know how difficult it is to deal with such cases; when sufferings are partly real, partly imaginary, how difficult to steer between the Scylla of overkindliness and the Charybdis of lacking sympathy; while attempts to make patients understand the nature of their symptoms are often fruitless—sometimes, it must be admitted, because the medical adviser cannot put clearly into words the causal nexus between physical ailments and mental constitution. To all who have felt such difficulties we strongly recommend the perusal of this little book. The letters are models of clear thinking and lucid expression, and cannot but be helpful,—indeed, it might occasionally be advisable to give the book into the hands of the patient for personal study. The translation is excellent, and Dr. Bruce is to be thanked for rendering Professor Oppenheim's "Letters" more generally available.

The Book of Receipts (Beasley). By E. W. Lucas, F.I.C., F.C.S. Eleventh Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill.

Beasley's "Druggists' Receipt Book," the last reprint of which was published twelve years ago, was so deservedly popular that we hail with pleasure the present edition. During recent years, however, great advances have been made in pharmaceutical and manufacturing knowledge; and therefore Mr. Lucas' task has meant not only re-editing but also re-writing the volume. This he has accomplished in a most satisfactory manner, and the volume contains the latest formulae and methods, together with a chapter on urine analysis and the examination of waters, milk, and sputum. There is an admirably arranged selection of reference tables and other data useful for the pharmacist and analyst; and the book should not only prove of value to them but should also find a place on the shelves of the medical practitioner, to whom we can thoroughly recommend it.