A Manual of Operative Surgery. By Sir Frederick Treves and Jonathan Hutchinson, Junior. 2 Vols. London: Cassell & Co., Ltd. 1903.

In its original form, this work, although generally recognised as an authoritative treatise on the operations of surgery, never really attained the popularity which it seemed to deserve. It might have been described as dogmatic without being convincing, as lengthy without being satisfying, and as practical without affording a useful guide in practice. Still, in part no doubt, owing to the great reputation of its author, it enjoyed an extensive circulation, and was thrice reprinted.

Of the present edition, it is advertised that "it has been revised throughout, many sections have been rewritten or have been remodelled, and every attempt has been made to bring the work up to date," and the main part of the work of revision has been carried out by Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, Junior, one of the best-known members of the acting staff of the London Hospital.

The lucid and attractive style which characterises all the published writings of Sir Frederick Treves is still in evidence, rivetting the attention of the reader and impressing him with the essentials of what is under discussion, while at times it is so racy and so pointed with flashes of humour that it rises far above the monotonous level of the average text-book of operative surgery.

The difficult task of bringing the work up to date has, on the whole, been skilfully carried out by Mr. Hutchinson, whose achievements are best appreciated by comparing the present with the former edition. Many useful illustrations have been added, and others have been omitted. The latter fate might have been extended with advantage to, among others, that which is intended to represent the relations of the kidneys to the parietes, for it is anatomically incorrect. The elimination of the description of obsolete operations might also have been extended with advantage; it is scarcely "up to date" to devote ten pages to lumbar colotomy and sixteen to lateral lithotomy when both these procedures disappeared from practice many years ago.

Many of the valuable observations which we owe to the genius of the Professor of Surgery in the University of Bern are either not mentioned in the present work, or are referred to in such fragmentary fashion as to be of little service. The old-fashioned vertical incisions in the neck are still adhered to, Kocher's methods of excising the elbow, hip, and ankle, are not quoted, while his method of excising the knee is dismissed in a few misleading lines of the text; his incisions for thyroidectomy are described inaccurately.
There are also important omissions from other sources, such, for example, as Lane's operation for cleft palate, Maydl's and Peters' operations for ectopia of the bladder, and M'Burney's gridiron method of opening the abdominal cavity.

Clinical Lectures on Mental Diseases. By T. S. Clouston, M.D., F.R.C.P. Ed. Sixth Edition. London: J. & A. Churchill.

The fact that Dr. Clouston's "Clinical Lectures" has gone through so many editions is a sufficient testimony to its popularity and worth. One reason why this is so, is undoubtedly that each successive edition is carefully revised and brought thoroughly up to date, so that anyone reading it may feel that he is getting the latest facts and speculations on the subject. The latest edition, recently published, very worthily upholds the tradition established by its predecessors in this respect. Its general characters are so well known that it is quite unnecessary at this time of day to emphasize its excellences. All that is really necessary now is to point out in what respects changes and improvements have been made.

The system of classification adopted in the first edition is very wisely still adhered to. Recent views on this much debated question are referred to and criticised with fairness. That the old order is bound to change, every sensible person will acknowledge, but the unanimity necessary for this step has not yet been reached, and in the meantime suggestion and criticism are preparing the way. The same may be said of the views, associated chiefly with the name of Ford Robertson, of the bacterial origin of some mental diseases. While useful in suggesting fresh methods of attacking old problems, these views cannot yet be considered as established on an indisputable basis of fact. Their chief value is in the direction of bringing mental disease more into line with other branches of medicine by grounding it on a secure foundation of pathology.

Notice must be taken of the many new and excellent illustrations which appear in this edition. This is especially the case with those referring to general paralysis. There is no better series in any other text-book at present. They give, within reasonable compass, the gist of what is known of the pathological appearances of that disease. They represent the goal towards which alienists are striving, not only in general paralysis, but in all other forms of mental disease. May this goal soon be reached. What strikes one, on re-reading this book after several years' interval, is its great suggestiveness, its opening out of new lines of thought in directions deemed before exhausted. This is a most valuable quality in any book, and goes far to explain the high position occupied by Dr. Clouston's Lectures as a standard work.

Physical Chemistry for Physicians and Biologists. By Dr. Ernst Cohen, Professor of General and Organic Chemistry in the University of Utrecht. Authorised Translation from the German, by Martin H. Fischer, M.D. London: George Bell & Sons.

This book gives in a permanent form the matter of a series of seventeen lectures delivered by Professor Cohen to a number of physicians, at their
special request, to serve as an introduction to modern physical chemistry, especially in its relation to physiology and other branches of science with which medical men are intimately concerned.

It is exceedingly gratifying to find that the importance of physical chemistry to other sciences is becoming realised, and the appearance of this English translation (though intended more immediately for American students) should help towards a much-needed awakening to the necessity of improved chemical training of medical students in this country.

The book is not, and does not pretend to be, a text-book of general physical chemistry. It is intended merely as an introduction to the subject, arranged specially to appeal to those to whom it is more directly addressed, and a perusal of it is strongly recommended to all medical men who are anxious to learn something of the great advances which have been made in chemical theory in recent times, and of the bearing which these have on their own special domains. It is to be feared, however, that even the simple statement of the case here provided will occasionally prove somewhat of a strain to those whose maximum knowledge of chemistry and physics (attained in a more or less remote past) never got beyond the requirements of the First Professional Examination. The majority of the lectures are taken up with the general exposition; some of the later ones deal with the applications to the fields of Hygiene, Pharmacology, Physiology, Osmotic Analysis; while others are devoted to Electro-chemistry.

To the general chemist the parts dealing with the applications to medical subjects are, perhaps, the most interesting, as they present an aspect of the subject which is more novel to him. It is to be hoped that the book will secure a large number of readers in this country.

A Short Manual of Inorganic Chemistry. By A. Dupré, Ph.D., F.R.S., F.I.C., F.C.S., and H. Wilson Hake, Ph.D., F.I.C., F.C.S. Third Edition (re-issue). London: Charles Griffin & Co., Ltd.

A manual which has attained its third edition evidently possesses features which recommend it to teachers of the subject, and a reviewer at this stage may therefore be excused if he devotes his attention to criticism rather than to an appreciation of what may be the strong points of the book. Unfortunately the occasions for criticism are not few in number, and are such as would make many teachers hesitate to recommend the book for use by their students.

To take a few illustrative examples at random: Although the authors state that "the growing importance of Physical Chemistry . . . has necessitated a thorough revision, . . ." they nevertheless dismiss "theories of solution" in half a page, apparently because neither of those referred to "can be considered as satisfactorily proved"! On page 72 there is a somewhat remarkable definition of "molecular combinations," which would include the great majority of oxygen acids, salts, etc., in that class of substances. Again, prefixed to the discussion of each substance described in detail, there is printed in italics a collection of data respecting physical properties, etc., which the average student would probably think he ought to endeavour to commit
Syphilis and Gonorrhoea. By C. H. Marshall, M.D., F.R.C.S., Senior Assistant Surgeon to the Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, Blackfriars, London. London: Rebman, Ltd.

This work must be regarded more in the light of a remembrancer than as a complete and exhaustive treatise. One finds in it the main facts applicable to these diseases presented shortly and compactly indeed, but with scarcely sufficient fulness to satisfy the less experienced. Read after the study of one of the larger expositions, it will be found valuable in recalling the cardinal features and as a test of memory, and so of considerable use for examination purposes. It opens with the history of syphilis, and we have been interested and at the same time amused at some of the statements made therein. As to the antiquity of the disease, little if any doubt exists, but when we are told twice over that Pharaoh contracted syphilis from Sara, Abram's wife, and that the disease spread in his house, the evidence is hardly sufficient. It is, however, possible that the mummy of the monarch in question may be discovered, and corroborative proof obtained. Quoting from Hominic, it is asserted that David suffered from syphilis contracted from Bathsheba, and had a child which died on the seventh day, presumably from this cause. The disease must have been in a severe form to have proved so rapidly fatal, and since both parents were diseased, one is surprised that the next child, the wise Solomon, appears to have wholly escaped. On this assumption the state of Bathsheba may account for Uriah not visiting his wife when recalled, for politic purposes, from the war; but the descriptions in Psalms, assigned to David as their author, suggest at the most that the writer, if describing his own condition, may possibly enough have had syphilis, but furnish no clue as to its source. Such examples of the "higher criticism" are free enough to gratify the aspirations of its most modern votaries.

Under pathology, what is positively known is tersely summed up, special prominence being given to its proneness to attack the blood vessels throughout the body; and the observations on its bacteriology are rehearsed, leading to the deduction, that while it is almost certain that syphilis is a microbial disease, the investigations hitherto published...
cannot be regarded as conclusive. It seems an omission that the section on the skin does not contain any description of the lesions occurring there themselves, but is a brief though correct recital of the diagnostic points which enable one to arrive at an opinion as to whether a given eruption is specific or not. No doubt this is useful, but it would have been better had the main efflorescences been at least sketched in the first instance. A differential feature laid down as distinctive of the tertiary palmar syphilide is that it appears in the centre of the palm, which eczema rarely does. This, we fear, may be found to be an uncertain guide in determination. Malignant syphilis connotes a term employed by writers to express different views, the determining factor in such cases will probably be found in variations in the resistance of the individual, not solely in the quantity or quality of the virus introduced. The question is discussed from a sound standpoint, and the conclusion arrived at is a sensible and judicious one. A word of recent introduction is parasyphilis, which is applied to lesions not, it is assumed, syphilitic in nature, but syphilitic in origin. These are not quite the same if the disease occurs in the acquired form, as when it is inherited. Each has its occasional sequelæ, influenced in their characteristics by the mode in which the virus has gained access. The author thinks that too great prominence has been given to the subject, but it is to be borne in mind that in many affections attributed to the results of syphilis we have as yet no better explanation to offer. A few valuable pages are devoted to reinfection and syphilis d'emblee, or syphilis occurring without any discoverable primary sore. That in some instances we cannot condense on the precise spot where the virus entered, is undoubted, and this conceded serves to explain cases where syphilitic manifestations appear in those who deny infection, while admitting exposure. Syphilis and marriage has been recently so exhaustively treated of by Morrow, that we are not surprised that his conclusions are reproduced in extenso. The solution of the bearing of syphilis on the question of eligibility for life insurance rests in a measure on the soundness of health, but mainly on the habits of the candidate for insurance. In too many instances syphilis does shorten life; conduct both prior and subsequent to the date of its having been acquired, as well as circumstances of environment, markedly affect the estimate. The balance of opinion, expressed in short compass, supports the view that it exerts an unfavourable influence. The rules for treatment seem to us as sound, though internal medication, regarded in this country with most partiality, is dismissed too briefly. Most of the section devoted to gonorrhoea is occupied with the treatment of the disease or its complications, and many useful hints are furnished, both as regards its management in men and women.

A Text-book of Diseases of Women. By Barton Cooke Hirst, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics in the University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, New York, and London: W. B. Saunders & Co.

This work has been prepared as a companion volume to the author's well-known Text-book of Obstetrics, which it rivals in excellence. The book is divided into sections rather than chapters, an anatomical or
regional classification being adopted as more logical than a purely pathological. For the most part this is convenient, although it necessitates at times a certain amount of cross-reference. Each of the sections—on the vulva, on the vagina, on the cervix, on the uterus, etc.—begins with a full anatomical description, and then follows an account of the injuries, the diseases, and the new growths affecting the part under consideration.

Dr. Hirst belongs to the moderate school, and does not at once recommend operation in all cases. There are many in which he suggests that in the first instance general medical and simple local treatment should be given a fair trial. Indeed, throughout the work the author is especially successful in describing the palliative treatment of diseases of women, and such curative treatment as can be carried out by the general physician.

But Hirst has very definite views on operative gynaecology, and while the methods of other gynaecological surgeons are fully considered, he gives a marked personal stamp to his work, by a description of the means of treatment he has found most useful during an experience of over twenty years. The author prefers the combined vaginal and abdominal operation for carcinoma of the cervix uteri, but he correctly points out that if the parametrium be affected the chances of recurrence are great. One is disappointed to find no reference to “deciduoma malignum” or chorion-epithelioma.

Where all sections are so good, it is difficult to point to any one as of pre-eminent excellence. That on anomalies of development in the genital tract is very complete, and every possible malformation is fully discussed. The section on lacerations and plastic operations is exceptionally lucid and well illustrated, as is also that on diseases of the urinary tract. One of the most interesting sections in the volume is that on the technique of gynaecological surgery. It teems with most valuable suggestions as to the details of operations; and after-treatment, which is so often scantily considered in works of this character, receives its due and proper attention.

The illustrations are numerous and for the most part original; they are excellently reproduced. The book is very readable, although many of the characteristic terms employed, such as “gynecic surgery,” seem somewhat foreign to our ear.

Hirst’s “Text-book of Diseases of Women” is one of the very best on the subject, and ought to take its place as one of the most popular works on gynaecology. It is thoroughly modern, practical, and scientific, and is adapted in every way to the needs of the medical student, the practitioner, and the specialist.

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Transactions of the American Dermatological Association at its Twenty-seventh Annual Meeting, held at Washington in May 1903. Official Report by Charles J. White, M.D., Secretary. The Grafton Press, New York.

One is sure to find, among the topics discussed year by year at the American Dermatological Association at least several bearing on questions of present interest. Though glanders has been known and
described for a very long period, still cases crop up in which even our most recent methods of determination fail to render the diagnosis certain. A fatal instance of this nature is related and figured by Fordyce and Mewborn, in various points closely resembling glanders, yet in which the bacillus mallei was not demonstrable by any one of the many staining agents resorted to. Both Van Harlingen and White concern themselves with eruptions occurring in hysterical subjects, and it must be admitted that it is not always easy to decide, in such cases, whether the skin conditions are self-inflicted, or are traceable to neurotic disturbances connected with the diseased mental state. A good deal of valuable information is conveyed in these papers with respect to a matter which occasions uneasiness alike to the medical attendant and the friends. The literature of the X-rays in their bearing on treatment has now reached extensive proportions, but the articles of Stelwagon and Pusey will be found helpful in arriving at some degree of certainty as to the best apparatus to use, the preferable modes of employing the rays, and the diseases which are amenable to their action. Workers in this line will agree with Pusey when he says "that hypertrichosis is the one condition in which my experience has been less satisfactory than I anticipated." Morrow contributed a long paper on syphilis and the medical secret, one which he subsequently incorporated with his book on syphilis and marriage. It is somewhat curious that in France, while the law insists on a nurse being informed of the nature of the infant's disease before she assumes her duties, there is no corresponding protection to the healthy child against infection by a syphilitic nurse. It appears to us that the only reasonable course is to include syphilis and gonorrhoea under contagious diseases to be reported compulsorily. We believe that in this way a decided reduction in their occurrence would take place, while the authorities would be in a position to locate dangerous foci. With the increasing spread of syphilis, some procedure such as this will require to be instituted. A useful article is written by White, who directs attention to a number of additional substances which may produce inflammation of the skin—dermatitis venenata. On the whole, this volume is fully equal in merit to its predecessors.

Serums, Vaccines, and Toxins in Treatment and Diagnosis. By WM. Cecil Bosanquet, M.A., M.D. (Oxon.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.). London: Cassell & Co.

In this book Dr. Bosanquet supplies (he will pardon the phrase) "a felt want." At a time when serums, vaccines, and antitoxins succeed each other with bewildering profusion—no less than seven have been introduced in connection with typhoid fever alone—a concise monograph, free from the technical jargon which most writers on immunity find it so difficult to avoid, cannot but be popular. Notwithstanding its modest dimensions, Dr. Bosanquet's book contains so much material that it is impossible in a short review to do more than glance at it. The introductory chapters deal with the general principles of immunity, and the preparation and uses of antitoxins, etc. From them even one hitherto
unacquainted with what has been done will gain a fair idea of the progress which bacteriologists are making in this field; and, what is more important, if he read intelligently, will understand why the serum treatment, brilliantly successful in some cases, has failed and must fail in others,—knowledge which will prevent both premature optimism and vain disappointment. The remaining thirteen chapters treat of diphtheria, smallpox, tetanus, snakebite, rabies, plague, typhoid, cholera, coccal infections, tuberculosis, and other less important diseases. Under each head the remedies in vogue or proposed are discussed, and at the end of each chapter Dr. Bosanquet sums up their merits in a series of conclusions—a feature which gives the book a practical character, and in which he shows himself a sane and not too sanguine critic. He is heartily to be congratulated on the production of this text-book, which sets a high standard for the succeeding volumes of the series.

An Index of Symptoms as a clue to Diagnosis. By Ralph Winnington Leftwich, M.D. Third Edition. London: Smith, Elder, & Co.

We readily grant that "the labour involved in the production and revisal of this little work has been out of all proportion to its size"—and would add, "to the value of the achievement." We regret that Dr. Leftwich has not put the capacity for taking pains which his index displays to a more worthy end. The book is an alphabetical catalogue of the causes of any given symptom; we have tested it carefully without discovering any omissions, and in doing so have found many unfamiliar terms defined. But, except perhaps to meet cross-examination of counsel, what does it serve to know that there are fifty causes of frequent micturition, and a hundred and one of "markedly raised temperature," that epistaxis occurs in acute yellow atrophy, ovarian disease, psittacosis, and fifty-four maladies besides, or that milk may be blue, green, red, or yellow. The book is intended to be used along with a dictionary of medicine, and the physician asking, "To what does this (unfamiliar) symptom point?" refers to the Index, then to the Dictionary. However ideal in theory, we doubt whether, in practice, such a plan would conduce to rational diagnosis.