in all its applications, and fearlessly saying, in the words of Charles Kingsley, "You, and not 'the visitation of God,' are the cause of epidemics." The present advanced position of the science of Public Health is due to medical discovery and teaching. All the signs of the times point to advances of still greater importance in the domains of Physiology, Chemistry, and Pathology, and the State cannot much longer allow investigations and discovery to be the efforts of private individuals, notwithstanding the fact that unpaid workers and pioneers have been at all times ready in our profession. It will only be a merited recognition of the duty which the State has to the interests of State Medicine when a Minister of Health is found in the Government.

Part Second.

REVIEWS.

Anatomy, Descriptive and Surgical. By Henry Gray, F.R.S. Thirteenth Edition. Edited by T. Pickering Pick. London: Longmans, Green, & Co.: 1893.

A Treatise on Human Anatomy. By Various Authors. Edited by Henry Morris. London: J. & A. Churchill: 1893.

Heath's Practical Anatomy. Eighth Edition. Edited by William Anderson. London: J. & A. Churchill: 1893.

The medical student of the present day cannot complain of any want of energy on the part of either authors or publishers in providing him with text-books on anatomy. If we might judge from the rapidity with which new editions of standard works, such as Gray and Heath, succeed one another, the science of human anatomy must be advancing by leaps and bounds. Perhaps, however, the competition of new rivals is a factor that must not be overlooked in seeking the causes for this activity.

The first edition of Gray was published in 1858, and ever since this text-book has been a popular one in this country, and still more so in America. This is probably due as much to the artist, Dr H. V. Carter, as to the author. In the preface to this edition the editor states that he has endeavoured to carry out the original aim of the work as a text-book for the students of surgery rather than for the scientific anatomist. It must be admitted that the "surgical anatomy sections" are well written, and show a practical knowledge of the bearings of anatomical facts to surgical practice; at the same time, in a systematic work of upwards of 1000 pages some little space might surely be devoted to the discussion of some of the more important morphological problems. The whole work abounds in minute details of little or no scientific interest or practical importance, and a judicious pruning in this direction would
leave room for references to the comparative and developmental significance of various structures. This would tend to make the work more interesting, and the facts more easily remembered by the student.

In the reviews of previous editions we had to point out various errors and omissions; most of these have now been corrected.

The new text-book on Anatomy edited by Mr Henry Morris aims at giving "a complete and systematic description of every part and organ of the human body so far as it is studied in the dissecting-room." Histology and the greater part of development are omitted.

The first section, that of "Osteology," written by Mr Bland Sutton, is a very satisfactory piece of work, and, in our opinion, much superior to the corresponding section in Gray. It affords an excellent illustration of the interest that can be imparted to the study of the skeleton when treated from a morphological standpoint.

The "Articulations" are by the Editor, whose well-known work on the subject is a sufficient guarantee that it is entrusted to competent hands.

The "Muscles," by Mr J. N. C. Davies Colley, and the "Arteries, Veins, and Lymphatics," by Mr Walsham, do not call for special notice.

The "Nervous System" is written by Dr H. St John Brooks. He gives an excellent account of the cerebral fissures in the adult, but this part would have been greatly improved by some illustrations of their development. A proper comprehension of the relations of the Island of Reil, the fissure of Sylvius and its opercula, can only be obtained by a study of their development, and certainly comes more appropriately within the province of the anatomist than the physiologist.

Mr Frederick Treves gives an account of the "Abdominal Viscera." This section contains an excellent summary of his researches on the intestinal canal and peritoneum. Some of the diagrams he gives of the position of the viscera are open to criticism. Thus in Fig. 583 the inner borders of the kidneys are represented as being situated some distance external to the transverse processes of the lumbar vertebrae. This error, however, is corrected in the section on "The Urinary and Reproductive Organs," by Mr Wm. Anderson.

The last section is "On Surgical and Topographical Anatomy," by Mr W. H. A. Jacobson, and will be found extremely useful to the senior student.

The illustrations are numerous and very good. Altogether it is a work that can be strongly recommended as a trustworthy textbook.

Mr Anderson has subjected Heath's Anatomy to a thorough revision, and greatly improved the whole work, without any serious addition to its bulk.
A Practical Handbook of Midwifery. By Francis W. Nicol Haultain, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., Lecturer on Midwifery, Edinburgh School of Medicine. London: The Scientific Press, Limited: 1894.

In the preface to this book the author says: "At the request of a number of my former pupils, I have published this little work. It is intended mainly to be a practical help to the busy practitioner, and, at the same time, to place before the student succinctly the chief points of practical importance in the study of obstetrics." Its size, and the fact that it is bound in flexible boards, suggests further that it is to be put in the pocket and referred to as occasion may arise. Whilst there may be two opinions as to the necessity for such books, and as to the utility of them in actual practice, there can be no doubt that the present work is one of the best of its kind. Beginning with the diagnosis and pathology of pregnancy, it rapidly passes in review all the conditions usually treated in a course of lectures on obstetrics, and it can be recognised that it is indeed a condensed set of lecture notes. The author has rather erred in putting his information in so condensed a form, and the English of the book is in consequence cramped and singularly devoid of verbs and the other parts of speech which impart elegance to our language. Perhaps, however, this was unavoidable. A word of praise is due to Dr Haultain for the thorough way in which he has brought the information in the book up to date; for we find references sufficiently full to such novelties as the induction of labour with intra-uterine glycerine injections, or with Champetier de Ribes's bag, and to symphysiotomy. On the other hand, the very important diagnostic point in cephalhæmatomata (the bony ring) is omitted. Nothing is said about influenza as a complication of obstetric cases, and the chapter on Infant Feeding is very slight (the wet-nurse is not even mentioned). There are a few illustrations, but they are so small in size as not to give a true idea of what they represent. With all these defects, however, it must be repeated that the book is one of the best of its kind, and is well fitted to perform the functions its author claims for it.

A Treatise on Gynaecology, Clinical and Operative. By S. Pozzi, M.D. Vol. III. London: New Sydenham Society: 1893.

The appearance of the third (and last) volume of Pozzi's work in its English form enables us to express an opinion on the whole treatise. It is a good work on Gynaecology, well translated; and author, translators, and the New Sydenham Society are all to be congratulated on its successful completion. Volume III. deals exhaustively with the new growths on the uterine appendages and ligaments, with tuberculosis of the generative organs, with pelvic hæmatocele, extra-uterine foetation, diseases of the vagina and
vulva (including ruptured perineum), and with malformations of the genital organs. A good index to the three volumes is appended.

The After-Treatment of Cases of Abdominal Section. By Christopher Martin, M.B. (Edin.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.). London: Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, & Co., Limited: 1894.

Dr Christopher Martin has given us a very valuable practical handbook on the management of laparotomy cases, based upon the experience gained for the most part during his association with Mr Lawson Tait, when he had under his care over 1000 abdominal sections. The book is one that all laparotomists will do well to read, and the remarks on perforation of the bowel, stitch-abscesses, parotitis, surgical rashes, and extra-peritoneal haematocoele, are very good. We imagine we have read the chief part of this book already, in serial form, in the Birmingham Medical Review, but it was worth reprinting.

The Diseases of Childhood (Medical). By H. Bryan Donkin, M.D. (Oxon.), F.R.C.P., Physician to the Westminster Hospital, and to the East London Hospital for Children at Shadwick; Joint Lecturer on Medicine and Clinical Medicine at Westminster Hospital Medical School. London: Charles Griffin & Co., Limited: 1893.

Among the many recently published books dealing with the diseases of children this is certainly one of the best. It assumes the reader's general knowledge of the diseases discussed, and emphasises only the points pertaining to childhood. It is written chiefly as a clinical manual for students and practitioners, and is based upon the author's experience and observation. We note throughout the work an independence of judgment and a broad common-sense which are by no means usual characteristics of such treatises. The author does not bind us down by hard and fast lines in the treatment of the various disorders, but, taking the wide standpoints of general principles, deduces from them the lines of management which have proved most successful in his own hands and those of others.

The subject is divided into six sections. Section I. deals with Disorders of the Alimentary Tract and of the Abdomen. These are carefully and thoroughly discussed, and we shall only notice small points here and there. The opinion is expressed that chronic enlargement of the tonsils arises most frequently in a gradual way, apart from any acute attack, and is frequently associated with adenoid growths. Early excision is strongly advocated. While in treating of certain cases of intermittent attacks of vomiting we find the refreshing remark, "Sometimes the origin is by no means
apparent, and in the absence of evidence of dietetic causes, I prefer no diagnosis to the theory of gastric catarrh arising idiopathically, occasioned by a conveniently hypothetical chill.” Acute diarrhoea is ascribed partly to improper feeding, and still more largely to poisoning by decomposition and fermentation produced by bacteria introduced with the food, and especially with milk. Indeed, the whole subject of diarrhoea in all its forms is wisely and judiciously handled. There is a short and useful chapter on Constipation. The author follows Wilks in believing that almost without exception cases of perityphlitis are primarily due to disease of the vermiform appendix.

Section II. comprises, under the head of General Diseases, rickets, syphilis, scrofulosis or struma, tuberculosis, anaemia in its various forms, purpura, and scurvy. In the treatment of rickets Dr Donkin seems to make no use of phosphorus, and he is convinced that many other factors besides improper feeding have a share in its causation. And we are glad to see he is old-fashioned enough to recognise a clinically useful distinction between scrofulosis and tuberculosis.

Section III., Acute Febrile Diseases. Small-pox is omitted, owing to the author’s limited experience of the disease, while rheumatism is included in this section; and it also contains a very useful abstract from the Report of a Committee appointed by the Clinical Society of London to investigate the periods of incubation and contagiousness of certain infectious diseases. We observe that in the treatment of rheumatic fever in childhood Dr Donkin has, for good reasons given, abandoned the use of salicin or salicylates.

Section IV., Disorders of the Nervous System. This is the best section in a generally excellent work, and is notable for the wide grasp of the subject which is displayed in dealing with the connexions and analogies between the various forms of brain lesion. It begins with spasmodic disorders, contractions, epilepsy, etc.; and then describes the paralyses of childhood, acute diseases of the brain, and chronic diseases of the brain. Then follow excellent chapters on chorea, with a particularly full and useful discussion of its pathology; hysteria and functional nervous disorder, headache, otitis, and tetanus. We have not space to criticise these chapters, but we read them with interest and profit, and can heartily commend them to those who wish to obtain, in a concise form, a clear view of the subject.

Sections V. and VI. deal with Disorders of the Respiratory System and Disorders of the Heart and Circulation respectively. They are as thorough as the rest of the work.

We can highly recommend this as a thoughtful, accurate, and compendious treatise, written in a charming style and with much vigour, and evincing a wholesome scepticism as to routine views of pathology and routine methods of treatment. We do not agree with all the opinions expressed, but the author shows that there is a good deal to be said for most of them.
Mr Jeaffreson's neat and handy little book of ninety pages is the second which has appeared on this hitherto virgin subject in the last few months; it contains, though its size is small, nearly all the information which a nurse is likely to require who may happen to be engaged in the ophthalmic department of a hospital or in attendance on a private patient suffering from cataract or other eye-disease. The author does not disdain—and this is really one of the best features of the book, for it is thoroughly practical—to give his readers directions in regard to minutiae: e.g., the most suitable manner in which to arrange the hair of female patients who will require to have the eyes bandaged for some days is laid down. But, on the other hand, he occasionally waxes eloquent quite unexpectedly. He seems to have had troublesome interviews with children suffering from superficial keratitis. In place of the somewhat heroic treatment to which he appears to consider himself driven in order to bring about relaxation of the spasmodic closure of the lids, viz., inhalation of chloroform, we would recommend him to have recourse to that old-fashioned but very useful method—introduced, we believe, by Mackenzie—of dipping the child's face under cold water till he begins to gasp slightly; when he is released, the spasm is gone.

Mr Jeaffreson gives wise advice to the nurse in regard to the feeding of her patient, keeping him cheerful, watching against causes of inflammation after operation, and seeing to his comfort in many ways. It is refreshing to meet with a surgeon in these days who does not consider the whole art of medicine to be summed up in the single word antisepsis,—whose mind is not (save the mark!) so full of bacteria that there is no room for other and weighty matters; Mr Jeaffreson frankly states that he is not a devout believer.

He places considerable reliance, in various conditions of the eye, upon well-conducted massage of the globe, and here again we are quite at one with him, though we cannot say the same of all his prescriptions, taking the word in its widest sense. (Talking of words, what authority has our author for using the verb "to ablute"?) We venture to differ from him in the matter particularly of bathing the eye, for we think a nurse would not be doing her duty who permitted a patient to bathe his or her own eye after an operation, as Mr Jeaffreson suggests.

Sooth to say, there are not very many points in nursing special to ophthalmic cases, but the author calls attention to what there are, and nurses would do well to procure Nursing in Eye Diseases, and study the contents.
An Introduction to the Study of the Mould Fungi Parasitic on Man.
By Leslie Roberts, Dermatologist to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary. Liverpool: 1893.

In his graduation thesis Dr Roberts gives the results and deductions drawn from a prolonged and careful study of the nature of the parasitic mould fungi.

As coming from one of the chief workers in this field we perhaps expected too much when we hoped to find in this thesis many doubtful points cleared up. But Dr Roberts, in his desire not to draw any not absolutely certain conclusions, out-Scots the Scot in his caution, and gives us not much absolutely new. Still the work is valuable from many points. His careful observations on the extraordinary variations which the same fungus may undergo under different conditions should serve to warn other workers not to be too rash in drawing conclusions from a few experiments. Though he deals with all the fungi which have been observed as parasitic on man, naturally the chief place is given to the ringworm and favus fungi.

Dr Roberts considers that there are several varieties of the ringworm species, and that one of these varieties causes pityriasis versicolor. Favus he considers another, but a closely allied species. He considers ringworm of the head and body as caused by two distinct varieties of the fungus, a view in which he is supported by many observers; but he considers the size of the "spores" a very misleading means of classification. We agree with him that so-called spores are short fragments of mycelium, which vary in size according to the conditions of nutrition. There is an interesting chapter on the foods of the fungi, and bearing in mind the title of the thesis, one must admit that though perhaps too philosophical and Darwinian in tone, this is no bad introduction to the study of the mould fungi. Considering the enormous amount of research work it must have entailed, it is rather surprising that it did not receive some commendation from the Senatus of the University.

The Healing of Rodent Cancer by Electricity. By J. Inglis Parsons, M.D. London: John Bale & Sons: 1893.

Having read the title, we opened this book with some curiosity, for the healing of any kind of cancer is something new.

To the first part of the book, which gives an account of rodent cancer, we need hardly refer, as it has little bearing on the subject. Then follow a few pages on the question of parasitism, in which it is suggested that the effect of electricity is to destroy the parasites and so cure the disease.

Then, following a short explanation of the methods of producing and using electricity, comes the main part of the book,—the method of operating and its results.

The author commences with twenty cells, and passes the current
for one or two seconds through two needles inserted into the growth. If the pulse is unaffected the current is increased up to 300 or 400 milliamperes, and the current passed alternately to and fro until sufficient destruction has been effected. The position of the needles is then changed, and the process repeated until the growth is destroyed.

The risk, says the author, is nil, for he has never lost one of the (four) cases he has operated on.

From the seventh to the tenth day the tumour sloughs away, and the resulting wound heals by granulation. It is thus evident that the method is none so new. It consists, certainly, in the employment of a new agent, but the result is the destruction of the growth, just as is aimed at by older methods; and we find on page 62 that, just as with older methods, a plastic operation may be necessary to counteract cicatrization.

We see nothing in the book to convince us that the best method of dealing with rodent cancer is not to recognise it early and remove it freely by the knife. As to the theory of electricity destroying the parasites because they have less resistance than the host whom they inhabit, we can only wish it were true. Were it so, tuberculosis, leprosy, and all those diseases due to micro-organisms would lose their terrors, for by a due regulation of the electric current we could destroy all the parasites, and leave their unfortunate host's tissues nothing to do but to dispose of their carcasses.

An Illustrated Encyclopaedic Medical Dictionary; being a Dictionary of the Technical Terms used by Writers on Medicine and the Collateral Sciences in the Latin, English, French, and German Languages. By Frank P. Foster, M.D., Editor of the New York Medical Journal, Librarian of the New York Hospital; with the Collaboration of William C. Ayres, M.D.; Edward B. Bronson, M.D.; Charles Stedman Bull, M.D.; Henry C. Coe, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; Andrew F. Currier, M.D.; Alexander Duane, M.D.; Simon H. Gage; Henry J. Garrigues, M.D.; Charles B. Kelsey, M.D.; Russell H. Nevins, M.D.; Burt G. Wilder, M.D. Vol. IV., with Illustrations. London: Sampson Low, Marston, & Co., Limited. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

We welcome with pleasure and admiration the completion, by this fourth volume, of this colossal undertaking. The four splendid volumes, imperial octavo, contain 3093 pages, and weigh as nearly as possible 35 pounds. It has taken nearly twelve years to finish this gigantic task. It is complete, scholarly and accurate, well arranged, and for important words it is rather an encyclopaedia than a dictionary. For instance, under the word suture, not only are its varied meanings given, but the anatomical sutures are enumerated and described, and the surgical varieties of suture fully detailed, intelligibly described, and illustrated by diagrams. The definitions
are verified by references to standard and current medical literature. A very successful attempt has been made to indicate the pronunciation of those words belonging to English, French, German, Latin, Italian, Spanish, or Portuguese languages.

We hardly know whether to admire most the courage and public spirit which enabled the publishers to face such a gigantic enterprise, the splendid organizing power of the chief editor, or the zeal and industry of his subordinates. All are admirable, and have resulted in the production of a work which will last as a standard one on the subject, and without which no medical library can be considered complete.

Dr Chesterfield's Letters to his Son on Medicine as a Career. By Sir Wm. B. Dalby. Reprinted from Longmans' Magazine. London and New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.: 1894.

There is a great deal of human nature in this little book. Full of shrewd common-sense conveyed in crisp pleasant language, these few short letters could be read in an hour and yet give food for much thought. An attempt is made in the two letters on "The Physician" to define what the *fine fleur* is that distinguishes the three who are in front rank from the thirty or the three hundred almost as good men who are in the second and third ranks of pure physic. Two great leading physicians are contrasted. One, "sound, straightforward, and reliable, with no little weaknesses;" the other, a very remarkable personality, evidently fit for any post, who could impress a patient by his mere presence, that "here comes the man that God Almighty has created to make me well."

For the surgeon the F.R.C.S. Eng. is a necessary qualification; then he must get into a good hospital and be able to stay in it and teach and operate fairly well. In time a certain measure of success is certain. Curiously enough, Sir William lays great stress on a power of oratory as a help to great success. Under the veil of an easy pseudonym, Paget's career and marvellous oratorical powers are sketched, and he is contrasted with those surgeons who cannot make even an after-dinner speech without humming and hawing.

Under the head of specialists Sir W. Spearman is easily identified,—a great surgeon who became a great specialist because his profession recommended him and trusted him. Contrasted with him we have a clever and severe description of the specialist who makes a booklet and then puffs and dines himself into notice, perhaps soon into fortune, but who never either values or deserves the favour of the profession.

As for his account of the general practitioner, would it were more than a happy dream of what his case should be. Given a long education in arts and medicine, abundant means, and abundant leisure, a young man so favoured by fortune may in time and in a West-End square realize the dream; but the great majority of the general practitioners, we fear, have to work much harder and with
much less reward than Sir William Dalby describes. Character and conduct, added to moderate knowledge, and fortified by experience, will, even in these crowded days, always obtain a competence, and if health and life be added, will reach a happy and honourable old age.

**Part Third.**

**MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.**

**MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.**

**SESSION LXXIII.—MEETING V.**

*Wednesday, 7th February 1894.—Dr Clouston, President, in the Chair.*

I. Election of Members.

The following gentlemen were elected Ordinary Members of the Society:—Claude B. Ker, M.B., C.M., Viewfield, Crieff; William Craig, M.B., C.M., Foulford House, Cowdenbeath, Fife.

II. Discussion on Intra-cranial Surgery.

The President made some introductory remarks, after which Prof. Annandale opened the discussion from the surgical aspect by reading his paper on Intra-cranial Surgery, which appears on page 898 of this Journal.

Prof. Grainger Stewart said he thought that the best thing for him to do in opening the discussion from the medical side would be to give an account of some of the cerebral cases he had had in which he had thought it necessary to ask the aid of his surgical colleagues, and then to sum up his own experience. The first case of the kind in which he had asked the surgeon to interfere was that of a man who, about twenty years ago, was under his care in the Old Infirmary. This patient while at his work sustained a severe blow on the vertex, from the fall of a barrel in a brewery in which he worked. This partially stunned him for a short time. Soon afterwards he began to exhibit distressing symptoms. He had headache of a very severe and persistent kind, and he began to take epileptic seizures of the most pronounced type. His eyesight became dim, and it was found that he had optic neuritis. Seeing that there was a history of injury to the skull at a definite spot, he considered it desirable to try the effect of operation. Sir Joseph Lister was called in to operate. He cut down where there was a slight depression of the skull. In the course of trephining the superior longitudinal sinus was accidentally opened into, and a gush of blood took place. The circlet of bone was turned out as