VOLUMES III and IV worthily maintain the high standard set by the opening volumes which have been already reviewed in our pages. One could have wished, however, that the various sections dealing with one disease had been collected together; for example, to appreciate the full value of the author’s experience in the surgery of the colon one has to consult each of the four first volumes in turn. The translation also of these latter volumes becomes rather weak, particularly in Volume IV where the obscurity of the translation verges at times on the unintelligible. Volume III opens with short sections on the indications for, and the technique of, posterior radicotomy by MM. Robineau and Sicard. The serial illustrations show clearly their method of opening the laminae by means of a gouge. A somewhat brief and diagrammatic account of the operative treatment of fractures by M. Dujarier follows. M. Pauchet then discusses cancer of the tongue, goitre, gastric and duodenal ulcers, tumours of the colon, and prostatectomy. The chapter on goitre is most interesting and well illustrated, and worthy of attention were it only for the unorthodox views expressed. The chapter on gastric surgery opens with an interesting survey of the various operative procedures and their indications followed by illustrations of the technique employed in the posterior short loop gastro-enterostomy for duodenal ulcer, and in the gastro-pylorectomy for pre-pyloric ulcers. For adenoma of the prostate, Freyer’s operation is illustrated. The operation is preceded by double vasectomy and scissors are used to cut through the mucous membrane in a complete circle before using the finger in enucleation. We are glad to read the following:— “We think Freyer’s original operation will find fewer and fewer indications, and we shall operate more and more on a widely open bladder.” Volume IV opens with a description and illustrations
of the author's method of dealing with recurrent dislocation of the shoulder by the axillary route. This is followed by excellent illustrations of the radical operation for removal of the breast. The use of x-rays both before and after operation is advised. The chapter on the surgery of the biliary passages is perhaps the most interesting in this volume as regards both the text and the illustrations. He considers that gall-stones form in the gall-bladder, and that the latter is infected with bacillus coli via the portal vein. Early operation is advised in all cases of suspected gall-stones. If the gall-bladder is healthy he leaves it, otherwise cholecystectomy is advised. For cases of bad operative risk from tachycardia, jaundice, cirrhosis, &c., he suggests a two-stage operation—(a) biliary anus, i.e., drainage of the gall-bladder or bile-duct, followed by (b) removal of the stones. Referring to the removal of the appendix he states—"We bury nearly one stump in six; we have observed no difference in prognosis between the free and the buried stumps." The last four sections deal with gynaecological operations, of which the illustrations are particularly good and self-explanatory.

An Introduction to Sexual Physiology for Biological, Medical, and Agricultural Students. By F. H. A. Marshall, F.R.S. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1925. (7s. 6d. net.)

This little book is based upon Dr. Marshall's well-known monograph, "The Physiology of Reproduction," which has been for years the standard book of reference on the subject with which it deals. Any reader who is familiar with the larger work will appreciate the difficulties which must have confronted the author in reducing its essentials to the compass of the present volume. In the preface it is stated that the book is intended primarily for biological, medical, and agricultural students, but that "it is hoped it may be of use also to others who possess only a rudimentary knowledge of zoology and physiology." The book has suffered in the earlier parts from the author's efforts to cater for these varied types of reader. We doubt if those (if such there be) who require to be told in Chapter II that the "uterus or womb is the organ in which the young develop during pregnancy" will find it very easy to appreciate the discussion of that highly controversial subject, the mammalian sexual cycle, which occupies the third chapter. The attempt to avoid the use of technical language is soon abandoned, however, and we feel sure that the book as a whole will be appreciated thoroughly by those for
whom it has been intended primarily. It will be useful particularly to medical students to whom sexual physiology is seldom presented on an adequate scale, and to the graduate student of medicine, too, the work will be attractive. It contains an easily read survey of current views upon such subjects as the relation between the internal secretions and the organs of reproduction, heredity and sex, fertility. The section on the determination of sex will be found to contain much information that has not been available hitherto without resort to scattered papers of a highly technical nature. The book is of handy size, well bound and well printed, and it contains seventy-two illustrations—many of which are produced in two colours.

**Injuries of the Wrist: A Radiological Study.** By the late Dr. Etienne Destot, of Lyons. Translated by F. R. B. Atkinson, M.D., C.M. London: Ernest Benn, Limited. 1925. (18s. net.)

A book full of information about the subject in all its aspects, and indispensable to anyone fearfully interested in wrist injuries. As a radiological study it is too late in being published, its main conclusions being common property for well over a decade. There is not, we think, emphasis laid on the value of stereoscopic photographs and on the value of a photograph of the sound wrist for purposes of comparison. The matter is, however, taken up in great detail, e.g., fourteen types of injury of the lower end of the radius are detailed and mostly depicted. It is a typical French monograph, and well worth study.

**High Blood Pressure: Its variations and Control.** By J. F. Halls Dally, M.A., M.D., B.C.Cantab., M.R.C.P. London: William Heinemann (Medical Books), Limited. 1923. (10s. 6d. net.)

This book is intended as a concise and handy volume for medical men actively engaged in practice, and it gives in a very thorough manner all that the ordinary practitioner requires to know regarding the estimation and significance of blood pressure. The book can hardly be described as a personal exposition of the subject, and we think that the author might have better achieved his object than by bringing in the views of so many different workers on the subject. One of the opening chapters deals with the clinical estimation of blood pressure and all the recognised methods are there discussed, and special attention paid to the auditory method as being the most exact. Various
instruments are also described and illustrated. Succeeding chapters deal with physiological variations in arterial pressure and the various causes of hyperpiesis. Chapters are also devoted to treatment and the importance of blood pressure estimations in examinations for life insurance. The concluding chapter deals with the history of the subject. There is an extensive bibliography. The book will be found of considerable value to those who make a study of this important method of clinical examination.

NEW EDITIONS.

Aids to Obstetrics. By Samuel Nall, B.A., M.B., M.R.C.P.Lond., and C. J. N. Longridge, M.D., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.P.Lond. Ninth Edition. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1925. (3s. net.)

In this edition this member of the "Aids" series has been brought up to date in the essential facts of the subject of which it treats. Lists and tables being avoided, it makes surprisingly pleasant reading for a work of its type. There are no illustrations. The book cannot take the place of the ordinary text-book, but should be popular for revision purposes.

Modern Inorganic Chemistry. By J. W. Mellor, D.Sc. New Edition. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1925. (12s. 6d. net.)

The issue of a new edition of Mellor's well-known "Modern Inorganic Chemistry" in such a comparatively short time after the publication of the first testifies to the appreciation with which the book has been received. Nor is this surprising, for it is one of the very best of modern text-books for first-year students. The new edition retains the characteristic features of the first, but is considerably larger, several sections having been re-written and many additions made; its value is undoubtedly enhanced by those changes. Thanks to the author's lucid style, enlivened by witty or caustic comments, the book makes interesting reading, and more than most of its kind should help the student to think in a logical way and to cultivate imagination. On its merits it can be recommended without reserve; moreover, considering its size, the price is extremely moderate.