These essays have this in common, that they tend to show that the teeth form an integral part in the economy of life. Decay of the teeth is intimately associated with many other disorders. The teeth of the present generation especially are too liable to decay, and caries is only a local manifestation of other general more or less serious troubles ultimately the result of dietetic errors. Unfortunately for the teeth, the ravages of disease is both more apparent and disastrous among them than among other organs. There does not seem to be a greater accession to the belief that caries of the teeth is due to the abstraction of the coarse and fibrous elements of food stuffs than would have been anticipated from the persistency with which this theory has been recently advocated. A cursory survey will show that the incidence of caries is not predictable from the distribution of gritty, fibrous, and hard food. So long as good and bad dentitions co-exist, the conditions of which may be observed, it is futile to prate about perfect dentitions in prepared skulls, the conditions under which their owners existed being conjectural. Moreover, neither the theory or art of cookery will budge in this, for cooking is for the taste, not the teeth.

At page 55, dental caries is said to be "simply an outcome of oral indigestion." This definition seems to be epigrammatic, but it is paradoxical also, and reminds one of the puzzle, "Why does the stomach not digest itself?" for during this so-called indigestion the teeth themselves become digested.

The prevention of caries is a complex problem. Caries appears to be due to some organic disturbance not yet definitely enough described. The greatest ravages of caries is in childhood, and is markedly incident on the first dentition. The organism on which caries depends requires certain favouring conditions before it can settle and germinate on the teeth, which seem to be its peculiar habitat. Iron salts especially seems to be, so to speak, its best known fertiliser. Probably certain states of the oral secretions favour the germination and growth of the
cariogenic organisms. Time is also a factor necessary to the germination of the organism. If the circulation caused by regular mastication and the normal flow of secretions of the mouth be kept up, the cariogenic organisms are prevented from germinating. When this circulation is brisk, arrest of caries even takes place.

The writer of these essays follows Spencer and others in their "organism and environment" conception. Spencer failed to recognise that the environment, so called, forms with the organism a complete organisation. The organism and its organic surroundings form a unity, and the conception of this unity is essential to the proper understanding of all biological and hence medical and pathological problems. Much more is this "organic nature of all things" conception necessary for biological philosophising which is aspired to in these papers. Very few have come to realise the self-evident and necessary truth that the physical world is an organic being necessary to and forming one with the living beings contained in it. The ancients tended to the idea that the world or the environment, so called, was made for the living beings in it, especially man; the moderns, the reverse, that the living beings and pre-eminently man have been modified and adapted to the world. Both are wrong. The world and the contained organic beings are one and have always been so. Opposing them to one another is an error of abstraction of the mind failing to see them in their unity.

Lectures to Teachers on the Prevention of Infectious Diseases.

By Wm. Berry, F.R.C.S.I. Bristol: John Wright & Co. 1906.

Fifty years ago the nearest approach to medical information in schoolbooks was contained in the scraps of physics and physiology furnished by Leitch's Juvenile Reader, M'Culloch's Course, and Chambers' Introduction to the Sciences. At the present time books intended for teachers and scholars run professional medical books very closely in both their matter and arrangement, and sometimes go on to the doubtful ground of treatment. This booklet keeps clear of therapeutics. There are five lectures, and they treat successively of infection, contagion, and immunity; notifiable diseases; infectious diseases not notifiable; eye and skin troubles (not the least important lecture); and disinfection; the last worthy the attention of school managers also.
The whole information is compactly and clearly expressed, the symptoms of diseases and the period of isolation for patients and pupil relatives being stated according to the usual code. The period for incubation of measles should be extended to thirteen days, according to the experience of the writer of this notice.

Mr. Berry's teaching may be summarised in his peroration—"I told you that the Bacillus tuberculosis was destroyed by the sun. Cleanliness by means of scrubbing and washing is a valuable aid in getting rid of infection. School classrooms should be regularly ventilated and all dust removed; the floors systematically mopped, with the addition of some liquid disinfectant; and classrooms are also all the better for a periodic stoving, followed by a good flushing-out with fresh air."

_The Food Factor in Disease._ By Francis Hare, M.D. Two Volumes. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1905.

These two weighty volumes are devoted to speculations on the food factor in connection with various morbid conditions. On the whole, however, it is doubtful if the author has much advanced our actual knowledge on the subject. The important element of idiosyncrasy is comparatively neglected, although in dietetics this is perhaps the most important factor of all. True, the author himself in the preface admits that "one or two chapters are largely speculative"; and that he has grave doubts as to the tenability of some of the views contained therein. Had this confession been sufficiently amplified it would have been hardly possible to find fault with any of the opinions expressed.

At the outset Dr. Hare advances the theory that migraine is due to what he terms "hyperpyæmia" of the blood, due to the excess therein of "carbonaceous matter." On the same lines, the appropriate treatment, according to the author, is the large exclusion from the diet of fats and carbohydrates, "throwing the onus of nutrition in the main upon proteids."

In the chapter on "Carbon Income" some interesting observations are found on dental caries in connection with the different diets, and the author is by no means convincing when he attempts to "explain away" the fact that the races who subsist almost entirely on carbohydrates have as a rule almost entire immunity from dental disease in general.

_Decarbonisation and acarbonisation_ are pressed upon the
reader at length, with numerous illustrations selected as tending to bear out the hypotheses of the author.

In sections 514 to 568 the author admits various "secondary factors" in the conditions previously dwelt upon, and a large number of cases are quoted in support of his position.

The uric acid factor in disease is dealt with in extenso, and is interesting reading when compared with Haig's work on this subject.

In sections 799-817 the probability of insanity owning an essential factor in hyperpyæmia is discussed.

Chapter XXVI deals with the therapeutic measures and treatment of hyperpyæmia. This is followed by an appendix of eighty-six cases, which, naturally, go to sustain the deductions and inductions of the author.

Dr. Hare's experience in the Brisbane hospitals entitles him to the most thorough investigation into the principles which he enunciates; but many of the problems, as indeed is admitted, are of such a nature as to be at present merely fields for gigantic speculation.

The general arrangement of the work is rather confusing so far as facility of reference is concerned.

The Champagne Standard. By Mrs. John Lane. London: John Lane. 1906.

This book consists of a series of articles of a discursive but very readable character on various subjects which appeal to society at the present day. Some of them have already been published in such magazines as Blackwood and the Fortnightly. The book gets its title from the first paper, which tells how the writer was entertained at dinner in London by a hostess who afterwards claimed to be heroic because she had the courage to supply her guests with excellent claret and hock instead of champagne, the reason being that her purse did not allow of the latter. That hostess could not come up to "the champagne standard," recognised by society.

Our attention has been specially drawn to the chapter entitled "Gunpowder or Toothpowder," which begins by asking why the English, admittedly the apostles of the tub, are so indifferent, as a rule, to the condition of the teeth. It proceeds to praise the American dentist as the greatest in the world; and concludes by asserting that toothpowder is infinitely more important in national politics than gunpowder, and by appealing to England to spend more money on the teeth.
The articles on "American Wives and English Housekeeping," "Kitchen Comedies," "Entertaining," "Temporary Power," and "The Extravagant Economy of Women" deserve to find interested readers in many husbands and wives, as well as other housekeepers; and those who make a serious beginning with the book are likely to read much of it before they lay it down.

Notes on General Practice. By S. M. Hebblethwaite, M.D. London: The Scientific Press, Limited. 1905.

This small book is of the "rough notes" variety, which is generally more piquant, if not more informing, than "systemic" works on medicine. With index it consists of 78 pages, and, for its size, the book is an *olla podrida* of medicine, surgery, and obstetrics.

It has been said that much knowledge dies with every medical practitioner; and it is considerate in the author to give his personal views on even such a wide range as appendicitis, pneumonia, diphtheria, rheumatism, gastric ulcer, various fractures and dislocations, glaucoma, infant feeding; and on abortion, placenta prævia, albuminuria in pregnancy, and the forceps.

Dr. Hebblethwaite writes in an unconventional style, and whether his readers may always agree with him or not, he will not fail to pleasantly interest them. The book is not only for a spare hour; it may be consulted by the young practitioner on such a common and important point of practice as the fixing up of a fractured clavicle easily and economically.

Annual Report of the County and District Medical Officer of Lanark for 1904. Glasgow: Robert Anderson. 1905.

Dr. Wilson's report for 1904 is characterised by its accustomed lucidity and conciseness. One of the most interesting sections is that dealing with the work done in the bacteriological laboratory. The results show in practically all cases that the negative results considerably exceed the positive ones. To take the case of enteric fever, for instance, out of 347 blood specimens from suspected cases, 128 were positive and 219 negative. Pages 29 to 35 deal with various outbreaks of anthrax and the investigations into the same.
An interesting point is the large number of samples (215) examined in connection with the River Pollution Prevention Acts. These include samples from Clyde water, various sewage effluents, sewage pollutions, trade effluents, and water supplies.

Under the Food and Drugs Acts, the great majority of the samples were, as might be expected, milk. Of the total number (280) examined, the percentage found adulterated was 10.

It is also interesting to note that 58 samples of whisky were examined. Of these 54 were certified as genuine, and the remaining 4 were only deficient in proof spirit to a very small extent.

One of the most important, and perhaps also most unsatisfactory from a public health point of view, cases under the nuisance section was that referring to the burning bing at Auchinraith Colliery, where it was decided that no nuisance had been proved either at common law or under the Public Health Act.

The whole report is most instructive, while numerous tables assist in summarising the information.

Appendicitis. By John B. Deaver, M.D. Third Edition. London: Rebman, Limited. 1905.

The first thing that strikes us on comparing this with the preceding edition is the great increase in the size of the volume. We are quite prepared, therefore, for the announcement in the preface that the work has been largely re-written and added to.

The arrangement of the contents is similar to what obtains in the second edition, but a reference to the list shows additional headings. Of these we may mention appendicitis in children, typhoid appendicitis, and blood-count. The chapter on anatomy contains some excellent illustrations of the peritoneal folds and fossae. That on physiology consists mainly of extracts from Sir William Macewen's "Huxley" lecture.

As might have been expected, we find in the chapter on treatment considerable modifications. The author does not now advocate the use of saline purgatives to anything like so great an extent as formerly. He says (p. 363), "I have come to regard the use of purgatives as not only useless in the majority of cases, but as positively harmful in some." He refers to the diffusion of septic matter by the excessive
peristalsis following on the administration of salines, and he finds that the mortality is greater in such cases than in those in which opium has been given. "Let it not be thought," he says, "that this is an argument in favour of the opium treatment—far from it—but I think the conclusion cannot be avoided that, of the two, the purgative treatment is the more harmful."

The author recommends cutting off the appendix flush with the cæcum: the wound in the latter is then closed with a continuous silk suture. Another method is that of invaginating the ligated stump with a continuous Lembert suture. Dawbarn's method is also described. All of these methods are illustrated by plates, the finish of which merits great praise. Altogether, the author has brought this edition well up to date, and we have confidence in recommending it to our readers.

Dispensing Made Easy: with numerous Formulae, and Practical Hints to secure Simplicity, Rapidity, and Economy. Second Edition, Revised. By WILLIAM G. SUTHERLAND, M.B. Bristol: John Wright & Co. 1905.

The high opinion we formed of this small work last year has been more than justified, for in little more than twelve months a large edition has been exhausted. The first edition was good, and this is still better. It simply teems with time- and money-saving suggestions, and we strongly advise every medical practitioner who dispenses his own medicines to at once procure a copy.

Manual of Diseases of Children. By JAMES BURNET, M.A., M.B., M.R.C.P. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1905.

The object of the present volume is to give a brief outline of the diseases of infancy and childhood to those commencing the study of this vast subject. Theoretical discussions are avoided, and the morbid anatomy of the various diseases referred to is not considered. Dr. Burnet has made the most of his limited space, and has given to the student and junior practitioner a most excellent little manual. This book is not intended in the least to be an "end all." The author simply desires to have his small text-book used as a stepping-stone to
something larger and more exhaustive. It seems to us that at present the student's path to knowledge is apt to be blocked by text-books of encyclopaedic dimensions, and we heartily greet, and recommend, this little book of Dr. Burnet as a sure foundation on which to build, and as a most excellent means for teaching the student how he may crawl in order that he may ultimately walk.

Mammalian Anatomy, with special reference to the Cat. By Alvin Davison, Ph.D. London: Rebman, Limited. 1905.

In this work, which is of handy size, Professor Davison gives an exhaustive and well illustrated description of the type selected, while, at suitable intervals, the distinguishing features of other types, both higher and lower, are summarised. The usefulness of carrying through such a line of study under the guidance of so complete a little work would undoubtedly prove great to anyone about to embark on the study of human or comparative anatomy, or, indeed, of biological science in any form. Dr. Davison bases his methods on the mature belief of Huxley and other eminent zoologists that it is unwise to introduce the beginner at once to new and strange forms of microscopic life when it is possible to use a subject of which the student is bound to know something—the elementary anatomy of a vertebrate animal.

Radiotherapy in Skin Diseases. By Dr. J. Belot. Translated by W. Dean Butcher, M.R.C.S. London: Rebman, Limited. 1905.

This is an excellent translation by Mr. W. Dean Butcher, M.R.C.S., of a volume on a subject of the greatest interest to the medical profession.

Radiotherapy as a treatment in some skin diseases has undoubtedly come to stay, and this exposition is one of the best published for showing why that is so. It advises the reader on the apparatus, methods, dangers and how to avoid them, and the benefit of radiotherapy as a treatment in skin affections. It might better be entitled the dermatologist's companion, as remedies other than light are given.

The work is a study of the physiological and pathological No. 5. 2 B Vol. LXV.
effects of the $x$-rays on the tissues of the body, and is a great advance on former treatises on this subject, in that it expounds the biological effects of these rays on the cutaneous tissues and the internal organs, and on bacteria and other supposed micro-organisms, which are blamed for producing some skin affections.

It is an excellent publication, clearly written, and the various illustrations are of a praiseworthy character.

The volume, however, we think, would lead one to believe that the treatment by $x$-rays was a veritable panacea for the entire classification of skin diseases, besides syphilis, epilepsy, Paget's disease, exophthalmic goitre, hydatids, &c., &c. This, of course, we are inclined to doubt. There is one feature in the illustrations which we think could be improved upon, viz., the want of colour.

Skin affections are so similar in character when photographed, or produced as colourless illustrations, that we think it would help the interest and the value of the work if some coloured plates were inserted to show the various stages of cure by radiotherapy.

Considerable credit is due to the author, translator, and publishers for the production of a volume which will rank as an important standard work on dermatology.

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Text-Book of Histology. By Dr. Philip Stöhr. Translated from the tenth German Edition by Dr. Emma L. Bilstein and Edited by Dr. Alfred Schaper. London: Rebman, Limited. 1904.

The great popularity of this work in Continental schools is shown by the large number of editions which have been called for in a comparatively short time, as well as by the number of languages into which it has been translated, and Dr. Schaper, of Harvard, was well-advised when, in 1896, he first brought its merits to the notice of English readers.

Conciseness in description, the avoidance of unnecessary detail, due attention to the common causes of error in technique, and an abundance of beautiful illustrations account for its success as a laboratory handbook, and all these qualities have been successfully retained, and some useful matter added, in the present, which is the fifth, English edition.

The distinctive feature of the work is that microtomes (of
any sort) are relegated to an appendix, all the fine results from which the book is illustrated being produced by simple hand-cutting methods. Such success, however, can only be guaranteed by close attention to some sixty pages devoted to a thorough description of the reagents and preparation required to secure perfect results.

Though intended primarily for laboratory students, we know of no work which could be more highly commended to any practitioners who, finding their knowledge of normal histology somewhat out of date, desire to establish anew a solid foundation for the study of the abnormal.

Archives of the Middlesex Hospital. Volume V: Fourth Report from the Cancer Research Laboratories. London: Macmillan & Co. 1905.

This volume, as its sub-title indicates, differs from its immediate predecessor. While the latter dealt with various subjects, the one now before us consists of reports of investigations carried on in the Cancer Research Laboratories. These reports number over a dozen, and they represent different researches and statistical studies of the subject. Of the latter, that on malignant diseases of the breast is extremely interesting, and from the various figures obtained very fair inferences have been drawn. It is to be noted that these differ somewhat from those of former investigators. Another interesting paper is that on the site-incidence of carcinoma.

This volume is not one which can be quickly read. It contains the record of much laborious investigation, and it will certainly take a place in the statistical literature of cancer.

Atlas and Epitome of Operative Ophthalmology. By Prof. Dr. O. Haab, of Zurich. Authorised Translation from the German, with Editorial Notes and Additions. Edited by G. E. de Schweinitz, A.M., M.D. London: W. B. Saunders & Co. 1905.

This volume is an admirable translation of Professor Haab's *Atlas und Grundriss der Lehre von den Augenoperationen*, and forms one of the excellent series of medical hand atlases issued by the publishing house of Messrs. W. B.
Saunders & Co. The volume is a literal translation, well executed, of Prof. Haab's book, and its value is distinctly increased by the notes and criticisms of the editor, which are interspersed in the text.

The descriptions of the various operations are given with a preciseness of detail and a lucidity characteristic of Prof. Haab, and give many valuable hints, derived from a large experience, which make the book of considerable value to all interested in ophthalmic surgery.

There are 30 coloured lithographic plates and 154 text-cuts in the book, and these are all admirably executed. The book, however, would be of still greater value if the plates portraying the various steps in the operations were increased in number. A series of good plates will convey a clearer idea of an operation to the mind of the reader than pages of letterpress. Even as it stands, Prof. Haab's book may be cordially recommended as a safe and wise guide to all interested in ophthalmic surgery. Even the experienced operator will find much that will interest him in many of the suggestions in this book, which are the outcome of a large and ripe experience.

Die Anwendung des Lichtes in der Medizin, mit besonderer Berücksichtigung von Professor Finsens Lebenswerk. [The Employment of Light in Medicine, with special Consideration of Professor Finsen's Life's Work]. By Dr. Valdemar Bie. Translated by Dr. H. Schramm. Wiesbaden: J. F. Bergmann. 1905.

The author here has set himself the task of writing a thoroughly scientific work, as though it were intended exclusively for specialists; at the same time his endeavour has been to present his matter in such an easily comprehensible form that it may be also read with understanding by readers who have had no scientific training. After an introduction and introductory physical remarks, Dr. Bie treats his subject under the following headings:—The effects of light on the skin; the psychic action of light; the influence of light on metabolism; the action of light on the blood; the ability of light to penetrate the body; the action of light on bacteria; the hygienic importance of light; Finsen's treatment of bacterial skin diseases with concentrated chemical light rays. A portrait of the late Professor Finsen appears on the frontispiece, and there are twenty-two illustrations in the text.