We have, on former occasions, directed the attention of our readers to the earlier volumes of this work. We have now to congratulate the editor, the authors of the various treatises, and the publishers, on the successful termination of their important work. The original plan has been strictly adhered to, and the work must be considered a very complete account of every thing connected with the science and practice of Surgery.

The present volume treats of the diseases of the organs of digestion, of the genito-urinary system, of the breast, thyroid gland, and skin, together with an appendix of two hundred and fifty pages, embracing the surgical diseases of childhood, surgical fever, apneea, parasites, venomous insects and reptiles, surgical diagnosis and regional surgery, hospitals, and surgical instruments and apparatus. Our limits forbid us to do more than glance at one or two of these subjects.

The first treatise in the volume "on the Surgical Diseases connected with the Teeth," is by Mr Salter, Surgeon-dentist to Guy's Hospital, and in the space of sixty pages contains a great deal of very interesting matter. Ordinary works on Surgery say but little regarding the diseases of the teeth, and although, no doubt, a particular mechanical knowledge is necessary to the dentist, these diseases are specially interesting, not merely from the importance of the local phenomena, but from their being very frequently associated with constitutional causes. The subjects chiefly treated of in Mr Salter's essay are alveolar abscess; painful and difficult eruption of the wisdom teeth; tumours of the gum and tooth pulp; abscess of the antrum; dentiferous cysts; alveolar and maxillary necrosis; hemorrhage after extraction; and the application of obturators, etc., in fissures of the hard palate, or fistula of the antrum.

In speaking of the abscess of the antrum, an ingenious contrivance is described for facilitating the free discharge of the purulent matter; it consists of a plate fitted over the place which was occupied by the extracted tooth; through this plate a hole has been bored corresponding to the orifice into the antrum, and through this a short tube is carried just sufficiently long to enter the antrum. The orifice in the tube is closed by a cork, which can be removed when injection of the cavity is to be practised. The object of this

1 See this Journal for October 1861, and December 1862.
contrivance is, of course, to keep patent an opening through which the purulent matter may drain away, while at the same time food is prevented from passing through the orifice in the socket into the maxillary sinus.

The chapter on diphtheria and croup is written by Dr Barclay, Physician to St George's Hospital. The account of the symptoms, diagnosis, and general treatment of the disease, is very good, but Dr Barclay's observations on the propriety of performing tracheotomy in these diseases are by no means satisfactory. In regard to the question of operating in diphtheria, he says, "it is by no means easy to give in few words a definite answer to this inquiry, or to lay down rules which may be sufficient to guide the practitioner in deciding on his course. If we turn to statistics, we find that the fatal termination is not averted to any great extent, although, in all probability, some lives have been saved by the operation which must otherwise have been lost." Had Dr Barclay been acquainted with Professor Spence's papers on tracheotomy in croup and diphtheria, he would have been able to give his readers better rules for the circumstances under which the operation should be performed.

The chapter on the surgery of the male urinary organs is by Mr Henry Thompson, and is clearly and ably written.

The first chapter in the appendix is on the surgical diseases of childhood: the authors are Mr Holmes, Mr Brodhurst, and Mr Shaw.

In conclusion, we can cordially recommend this work as a valuable addition to the library of the surgeon. Of course, it is not perfect, and on many of the points contained in it there is room for difference of opinion. But it has been carefully and conscientiously written, and is creditable to the surgeons of the metropolis.

Lectures on Orthopaedic Surgery. By Lewis Bauer, M.D. Delivered at the Brooklyn Medical and Surgical Institute. Lindsay and Blakiston: Philadelphia: 1864. Pp. 108.

The Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn Medical and Surgical Institute appointed Dr Bauer as one of their lecturers. The course of lectures on Orthopaedic Surgery delivered under these auspices constitutes this work, and seems to be published almost verbatim. The author has succeeded in accumulating a very large amount of information, the result of much digestion of the labours of others, into a small space and in a very accessible form. The researches of the Webers on the mechanism and physiology of the spine, the theories of Baehring and Guerin, and the practice of Dieffenbach, Stromeyer, Langenbeck, Little, and Sayre, are largely drawn upon, but every quotation is most amply and conscientiously acknowledged; a very large number of less known
authors and isolated cases are also quoted; so that this little work really gives a very fair idea of the chief "lines of practice" of the orthopaedic surgery of the past.

In such a digest of the past, from itsvery fulness and excellence, there is not much to review; some of Dr Bauer's own observations are at once more original and more challengeable. His pathology of hip-joint disease, as conveyed in the following sentences, will surprise most surgeons:

"We are fully prepared to show that the etiology of hip disease has no connexion with tuberculosis, and that the existence of the latter itself has become totally questionable by more recent investigation."

The meaning of this second clause is obscure; it appears to deny the existence of tuberculosis, but a few sentences lower down we read,—

"In contaminated nutrition hip disease may originate, but we are firmly convinced that the former is more often the result than the cause of the disease."

The italics are our author's. He then states his belief that inflammation of the ligamentum teres, the result of contusions or contrecoup, is the first if not the essential morbid change in hip disease, and that to it all the other changes are secondary.

The treatment of hip disease consists, according to Dr Bauer,—

1. In milder cases, by extension and counter extension, by splints, screws, pulleys, and weights.

2. When the pain is severe, and the joint filled with inflammatory products, to relieve the tension of the capsular membrane either, 1st, by twisting the joint; 2d, by subcutaneous paracentesis of the joint.

In the section on the treatment of spinal deformity, we have the descriptions and diagrams of various complicated instruments, yet the following sensible estimate of their value:

"The very best mechanical contrivance is nothing more than a 'monitor' to the patient, restraining undue motion of the spine, and slightly sustaining the superincumbent weight of the body. Stays are silly and reprehensible apparatus."

Yet, on the opposite page, we have a diagram of a "cuirass", made of soft iron and wire-webbing. There is much in a name.

The woodcuts are numerous, and almost curiously hideous, in their roughness and bad drawing; the style is conversational, occasionally stilted, and adorned with numerous Americanisms.

The Surgery of the Rectum, being the Lettsomian Lectures on Surgery, delivered before the Medical Society of London, 1865. By HENRY SMITH, F.R.C.S. John Churchill and Sons: London: 1865. Pp. 127.

The most charitable critic would find this a hopeless case. Its very title a misnomer, this little pamphlet on certain of the diseases affecting the rectum, and certain plans of treatment, contains little that is novel, and much that is mistaken.
It consists of the three lectures listened to by the Medical Society of London, and, as the author tells us in the preface, was "so favourably received by a large and attentive audience that I hesitate not to publish them just as they were delivered." This fact may, in part, account for the slipshod style, which is so apt to deform what is written for the lecture-room, but the numbers and patience of the audience hardly deserved the third lecture. Its description, in the author's own words, is sufficient:—

"It will be perceived that the use of my improved clamp in the treatment of haemorrhoids and prolapse of the rectum is fully explained, and, together with the record of my experience of the method recommended, forms the subject of the whole of the last lecture."

Now the instrument is already described in another work by the same author;\(^1\) surely \textit{a rechauffé} of the description of an instrument, with thirty-seven detailed instances of its use, is not a lecture worthy of a large and attentive audience.

Lecture I. is on some points connected with fistula in ano. We may refer the reader, anxious for information on the question of how much ought to be cut, to the following sentences, quoted verbatim:—

"When the inner opening does exist, and in the situation referred to, I believe we need not carry the point of the bistoury further than this spot; but it does not follow, that in those cases where an internal opening does not exist, and where the sinus runs some distance up the bowel, that we should in all cases limit our incision to that point where the internal opening is generally expected to be found."—P. 10.

"It is clear that in our operations we should confine our incisions as much as possible to the lower extremity of the bowel, and fortunately it is found by experience that the division alone of the external sphincter muscle in the direction of the fistulous sinus is sufficient to produce a satisfactory cure; but, as I have before stated, there are exceptions to this rule."—P. 15.

And certainly he cannot complain that he has not a fair choice.

An account of a few cases in which stricture of the rectum complicated fistula in ano, prepares us for Lecture II., which is devoted chiefly to stricture of the rectum, simple and malignant, and to rectal polypi.

The contents of Lecture III. have been already mentioned: the tone of it will be best seen from the following sentences, which need no comment.

"It is not possible that either tetanus or pyæmia, the two most formidable results of the ligature, can occur after this operation, because the condition which produces the former affection does not obtain, viz., the presence of an irritating substance around the nerves for several days; and pyæmia, or other inflammatory affections, will be sufficiently prevented by the exposed surface being deprived of its vitality and the veins being blocked up by the cautery."—P. 102.

"It is impossible for any surgeon conscientiously to tell his patient that there is no danger whatever after the ligature; but this may be, most truthfully stated, with regard to the operation by my improved clamp, if the most ordinary precautions are taken to prevent bleeding."—P. 104.

\(^1\) Smith on Haemorrhoids. Third Edition, p. 116, etc.
Clinical Surgery: on Tumours, and Tumours of the Breast, more particularly in Reference to their Diagnosis. By Thomas Bryant, F.R.C.S., Assistant-Surgeon, etc., Guy’s Hospital. Part V.: pp. 90. London: John Churchill & Sons.

This little work is the fifth of a series of Memoirs on Clinical Surgery on which Mr Bryant is at present engaged; and some of its predecessors have been already and favourably reviewed in these pages. Like all the works of this author, it is a carefully written and thoroughly sensible and practical treatise. A quiet thoughtfulness, and a desire to utilize as far as possible every surgical case, however trifling it might appear to an unobservant eye, characterize all Mr Bryant’s surgical work.

The aim of these observations on tumours is primarily to aid in clinical diagnosis, and to record the method and results of treatment of various kinds of tumour. But Pathology is not forgotten: a chapter “On some Points in the Pathology of Tumours tending to illustrate the Subject of their Diagnosis” being prefixed, and bringing out briefly but very clearly certain important first principles in the form of a series of axioms, with a short commentary on each. To what school of Pathology Mr Bryant belongs will be clearly seen from the following quotation of the first two axioms:

“As a leading pathological principle, it may, I think, be unhesitatingly asserted, that all tumours, with the exception of the hydatid, are made up of one or more of the natural elementary tissues of the body, and that in no single example has any extraneous or new element been ever detected.

“From this, therefore, a second leading principle may be fairly drawn,—That all tumours partake of the nature of the part in which they are developed, and are more or less made up of the elements which naturally enter into its formation.”

The first half of the book consists of a rapid sketch of the varieties of tumours (following the arrangement of Mr Paget) from a clinical point of view; reference is made to about 300 cases, and a few of the more interesting and remarkable are given in some detail.

From a peculiarity of arrangement which is necessary in a series of clinical reports, cancerous tumours receive a smaller share of attention than usual, the reason being that epithelial cancers of the lips, tongue, rectum, and penis are discussed under their separate organs; as also cancers of breast, testicle, and bones. Surely hydatid tumours in surgical seats are becoming more common of late years than they used to be: Mr Bryant records six cases all observed at Guy’s within nine years, and all successfully removed. Three typical cases of recurring fibroid tumours are given, in all of which, however, the patient died after three, four, and seventeen operations respectively.

The second half is devoted to tumours of the breast, including a brief notice of abscess, acute and chronic, with an analysis of 102
cases. In the treatment of chronic abscess, the drainage-tube receives due commendation.

Various aids are given for the diagnosis of the simple adenoid and cystic tumours of the breast from the cancers. An analysis of 222 cases of cancer follows; 133 were operated on, of whom 9 died of the operation. As usual, no data are furnished as to the number of complete and permanent recoveries. The last case in the paper is interesting from its extreme rarity; a good example of what may be called the natural cure of scirrhus. A well-marked case in a state of ulceration, in the seventh year of its presence and the fourth of its ulceration, without any local treatment beyond water-dressing, "became much smaller, several pieces the size of nuts having fallen off, having apparently been destroyed by the contraction of their own fibres." Five years afterwards, by this process of gradual decay, the tumour had been reduced to the size of half a pea in the cicatrix; and a year after that report, the patient considered herself well, the local disease causing her no pain or inconvenience. A full description of this form of natural cure will be found in Maurice Colles' of Dublin excellent work on the Diagnosis of Cancer, also published by Mr Churchill.

The Practice of Medicine. By Thomas Hawkes Tanner, M.D., F.L.S., Fifth Edition, Enlarged and Improved. London: Renshaw: 1865.

Though this volume is called a fifth edition, it is so much enlarged as nearly to constitute a new work. Dr Tanner's "Manual of the Practice of Medicine" was very popular among students preparing for examination; the fourth edition was in 32mo, and consisted of about 700 pages. The fifth edition no longer retains the title of a Manual, and has expanded into a handsome octavo volume of upwards of 900 pages. The increased space at Dr Tanner's disposal has enabled him to give a more complete account of the symptoms of diseases generally, and also to introduce several new subjects; in particular we may notice a chapter of a hundred pages on the diseases of the female sexual organs. Of course the work is essentially a compilation, but the statements are generally accurate, and it will, we think, form a very fair text-book for the medical student.