NEW BOOKS AND NEW EDITIONS.

A Plea for the Home Treatment and Prevention of Scarlet Fever. By Robert Milne, M.D., Ch.M. Pp. 80. London: James Nisbet & Co. 1910. Price 2s.

In this little book Dr. Milne gives some account of the treatment of scarlet fever which he has found useful in Dr. Barnardo's Homes and also in private practice. It consists, as is now well known, in the inunction of the patient with pure eucalyptus oil and the swabbing of the tonsils with 1 in 10 carbolic oil. Not only does he claim by this method to prevent any infection arising from patients so treated, but he states that complications are almost unknown. Isolation is not regarded as necessary, and the scarlatinal patient is allowed to mix freely from the first with susceptible individuals. The author describes his management of several outbreaks, and his success has certainly been very remarkable. He makes out a good case for a systematic trial of his method, especially for schools and institutions where patients can be treated from the first symptom. We think this last point important, as Dr. Milne appears to regard the failure of some who have attempted to carry out his system as due to the fact that the treatment was begun too late.

How far, indeed, the system will prove generally useful is a subject for legitimate doubt. Dr. Milne does not appear to realise that scarlet fever is often a disease of a very low infectivity. It is not unusual for desquamating patients to attend schools for days or weeks without doing any harm, and it is not an uncommon experience in fever hospitals to see a scarlet fever case, which has been overlooked and admitted to a diphtheria ward, remain many days among susceptible children without causing infection. Desquamation per se is nowadays regarded as very unimportant, and we are glad to notice that Dr. Milne lays proper stress on infection from the throat. We must admit that his freedom from secondary cases in the early days of the fever suggests that a prolonged trial of the carbolic oil treatment is well worth undertaking. His book in any case cannot fail to interest the general practitioner, and will probably be of service in assisting to teach both the profession and the public that the isolation practised at present for scarlet fever is unnecessarily long. It must, nevertheless, be added that in the two great fever hospitals in which his system has been tried it has failed to give the results claimed for it.
Sight-Testing made Easy. By W. Wright Hardwicke, M.D. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1909. Price 2s. 6d. net.

In his preface the author states that his intention in writing this book is to enable the busy practitioner to test the sight of a patient and prescribe the necessary glasses in the shortest possible space of time. This he proposes to do in the 66 pages.

The book is far from complete, for no mention is made of retinoscopy or other important objective tests familiar to every medical student nowadays. Subjective tests alone are adopted in this lightning process, which, as every teacher of ophthalmology knows, is antiquated, and insufficient even for the up-to-date optician.

The title of the book, although catching, is entirely misleading, for there is no easy road to acquiring a practical and accurate knowledge of estimating errors of refraction except by hard application in the ophthalmic clinique under a trained ophthalmologist.

It is somewhat amusing to find the Greek derivations of the terms employed in refraction in a small book like this, especially when it is remembered that the medical student of to-day, even although he can put the mystical letters M.A. after his name, is, as a rule, unacquainted even with the Greek alphabet.

Objection must be taken to the name of a prominent advertising firm of opticians appearing on several of the woodcuts. This, we maintain, is most objectionable.

The book, so far as we can see, can serve no useful purpose, and we are bound in justice to our readers to say so in a frank and unequivocal manner.

A Text-Book of the Diseases of the Ear, for Students and Practitioners. By Professor Dr. Adam Politzer. Translated and Edited by Milton J. Ballin, Ph.B., M.D., and Clarence L. Heller, M.D. Fifth Edition. Revised and Enlarged. Royal 8vo. Pp. xiv. + 892. 337 Illustrations. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1909. Price 25s. net.

It is unnecessary for us to criticise this work which is deservedly looked upon as a classic. It is sufficient to record the appearance of a translation of the fifth edition, and to offer to Messrs. Ballin and Heller the thanks of those whose knowledge of German is not sufficient to render the work available for reference in the original. Great advances have been made, as the editors state in their preface, during the last few years in the pathology of the diseases of the internal ear, and the improved technique in operative measures on this region of the organ of hearing have opened up a new field in the practice of otology. We shall therefore restrict our remarks to the sections of the work dealing with these subjects. The methods
of eliciting vestibular nystagmus are not given in sufficient detail to enable one who has no knowledge of the subject to carry them out, and the conclusions which may be drawn from the results of these tests are omitted. The section on Labyrinthine Suppurations, however, is excellent, and gives a concise account of our knowledge of this difficult subject at the present day. The chapter on Intra-Cranial Complications reaches a high order of merit. This new edition certainly deserves success, and we recommend it very heartily.

Drugs and the Drug Habit. By HARRINGTON SAINSBURY, M.D., F.R.C.P. Pp. 307. London: Methuen & Co.

Dr. Sainsbury's volume is not a text-book of pharmacology, but an historical and analytical examination of the principal groups of drugs in therapeutic use, followed by an account of the acquisition of habit and its treatment.

He examines and details the use of our principal drugs in their respective spheres, and proves that such use is not haphazard, but has a distinct and defined aim.

An examination of their use and usefulness is followed by a discussion on the acquisition of habit—particularly in regard to alcohol and opium. The chapter on the Formation and Treatment of the Alcohol Habit is particularly good, both in the statement as to what has already been done towards its eradication and in the lead he gives as to what is still wanting on the part of the State and of the medical man to secure its ultimate suppression. The volume is evidently the work of one who has had a very large clinical experience, and is well worth the perusal of those who are interested in the subject.

Theoretische Grundlagen zum Praktisch-Chemischen Unterricht der Mediziner.

By ARTUR KONSCHEGG. Pp. vii. + 153. Wiesbaden: J. F. Bergmann. 1908. Price 3s.

In the Austrian universities the student of medicine is required to take practical courses of chemistry in his first and in his second summer session, his lecture course, taken in the first winter, generally preceding his practical work. This arrangement has obvious disadvantages, and indeed it would be difficult to find justification for it on any pedagogic ground, as it involves complete separation of the systematic from the practical instruction. These disadvantages are apparently felt by teachers, and the little book under review has been written for the purpose of bridging the gap between the two arbitrarily sundered disciplines. It gives, along with brief practical instructions for analytical work, the necessary descriptive and theoretical material for the proper comprehension of the analytical process.
With regard to subject-matter, the book is divided into the following sections:—Qualitative analysis, quantitative analysis (gravimetric and volumetric), organic analysis (organic acids, alkaloids, proteins, carbohydrates, urine). The organic portion occupies fully half the book, and is, on the whole, the most successful.

The Diseases of Children. By James Frederic Goodhart, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P. Ninth Edition. Edited by George Frederic Still, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. Pp. 931. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1910.

For many years Goodhart's text-book on The Diseases of Children enjoyed a well-deserved popularity by reason of the reputation of its author and the original and attractive manner in which he represented his views, which gave his readers food both for thought and reflection.

In 1902, with the co-operation of Dr. Still, the work was re-issued in a considerably enlarged form, and it cannot be a matter for surprise that with two authorities of such wide experience and extensive knowledge of the subject fresh additions are being constantly demanded. The present volume is somewhat bulkier than its predecessors owing to the addition of new material and the introduction of several illustrations, which, however, are not sufficiently numerous to add greatly to the value of the work.

Amongst the new material, descriptions are given of Henoch's purpura, pyelitis, ophthalmia neonatorum, and the status lymphaticus chiefly in its relationship to adenoids, and the authors point out the special risk of administering an anaesthetic in these cases.

The subject of infant feeding has been considerably elaborated, and the indications for the use of whole milk and sour milk discussed, although the writers appear to be somewhat sceptical as to the advantages of these methods of feeding. In the chapters on Stomach Disorders attention is drawn to the serious results that sometimes follow on dental caries, and there are some interesting pages on the relationship of fever with digestive disorders. The subject of congenital hypertrophy of the pylorus has been practically re-written, and the opinion is advanced that if surgical measures have to be adopted the choice should lie between Loreta's operation and pylorectomy.

The book has been completely revised and brought up to date, and the authors have to be congratulated on the issue of a ninth edition of a deservedly popular text-book.
Manual of Tropical Medicine. By ALDO CASTELLANI, M.D., and ALBERT J. CHAMBERS, M.D. Pp. 1242. With 373 Illustrations and 14 Coloured Plates. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1910. Price 21s.

The work is divided into three parts, the first, or introductory, including a history of tropical medicine, tropical climatology, the effects of tropical climates on man, and the incidence of disease in the tropics. The various subjects are treated with great skill, and the chapters provide interesting reading.

The second part treats of the causation of disease in the tropics, including physical, chemical, and biological causes. The chapter on Parasites is, as might be expected from Castellani's record, particularly good, though here and there the attempts to indulge in fresh forms of nomenclature are a little confusing.

The third part—diseases of the tropics—is divided into fevers, general diseases, and systemic diseases. Here the authors supplement the results of their own experience by very numerous references to the published results of other workers, with the result that the work is the most comprehensive on diseases of tropical climates hitherto published.

Unlike many books on this subject, it is thoroughly up to date; as an instance, the trypanosoma Cruzi (with the effects it produces in man) is fully described.

In order to save space no references are made to laboratory methods; but if, as recommended by the authors, the worker in tropical medicine provides himself, in addition to this book, with Daniel's or Christopher & Stephens's work on Practical Methods, he will, for all ordinary purposes, be thoroughly equipped with the literature on his subject.

We have no hesitation in saying that this is the best all-round manual on tropical diseases which has yet appeared.

A Text-Book of Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology. By JOHN GLAISTER, M.D., &c. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1910.

This is the second edition of the author's well-known book, which appears in a new form, inasmuch as the present volume is devoted wholly to medical jurisprudence and toxicology, the subject of public health having been left out with a view to publication in a separate volume. We believe the change will be welcomed, since by this means Professor Glaister has been able to extend the scope of his work, more especially in the department of toxicology.

The book as a whole will be found thereby much improved, and to constitute not only a valuable addition to medico-legal works in the English language, but to stand as a monument of the author's industry, keen observation, and power of clear exposition.
The chapters on personal identity, medical evidence, and the medico-legal relations of the sexual functions may be mentioned as especially noteworthy, while those on lunacy in its medico-legal aspects are admirable, and form a most useful contribution to the literature on the subject. A criticism which may be made is that some subjects, such, for example, as that on personal identity, have been accorded more detailed consideration than their practical importance would seem to warrant in a text-book destined for the use of the ordinary medical or law student. On the other hand, there are subjects relating to questions which are encountered in everyday medico-legal practice which might, in our opinion, have been more fully discussed with advantage.

In this connection we may mention the various forms of death from asphyxia. For example, in the consideration of drowning, the difficulties of diagnosis are not laid stress upon, notwithstanding the fact that, whether as a result of putrefaction or of other causes, these difficulties are very real, and during recent years have inspired numerous important investigations. In this field the work of Brouardel and Loye, Carrara, Revenstorf, Leers, and many others is deserving of mention, in view of its historical, as well as its practical, value. Hanging, strangulation, and throttling are considered together, and we cannot help thinking that each of these important forms of violence was worthy of separate treatment in a book on medical jurisprudence designed either for the student or for a work of reference, and that such individual consideration would have led to a clearer exposition of the outstanding features of each. We find no reference to suicidal strangulation, although such cases are by no means so rare as was once supposed, and, as was recently shown at Chester Assizes, wholly fallacious views are held in regard to it. Again, we have failed to find any reference to the local internal injuries in cases of hanging, strangulation, and throttling, or to the sequelæ often present after assaults by throttling.

It is of interest to note that the author states that in the bulk of his cases of hanging the mark of the ligature was situated between the hyoid bone and the line of the lower jaw. Such a situation is most unusual in the experience and is contrary to the observations of most authorities, and we wonder whether "between the hyoid and thyroid cartilages" was not meant. In dealing with rape we gather, on page 453, that the author advocates the staining of spermatozoa as the best means for detecting them in stains. We trust that such an experienced medical jurist as Professor Glaister does not intend this method to be used in preference to treating the stain simply with water, and searching for the organism in this fluid, in which, if present, it can as a rule be easily detected. Personally, we should feel inclined to distrust the evidence of a witness who only used a
staining method, and did not employ the simplest and most irreproachable means of examination. The examination of blood stains is very fully considered, although a little more dogmatism as to the comparative importance in practical work of the various blood spectra would have been advisable, and in this connection we think there is an error, on page 348, in a supposed distinction between hæmochromogen and reduced hæmatin.

The volume is profusely illustrated, which greatly adds to the value of the descriptive text, but some of the photographs might be improved with advantage in the next edition, such as, for example, that illustrating gonococci.

The book as a whole will maintain the high reputation of the author, and will undoubtedly enjoy wide popularity, and we wish it every success in its new form.

*Diseases of the Colon and their Surgical Treatment.* By P. Lockhart Mummery, F.R.C.S. Illustrated by Coloured and other Plates, and Numerous Figures in the Text. Pp. 317. Bristol: John Wright & Son, Ltd. 1910.

A careful study of Mr. Mummery's book has convinced us that there is ample justification for considering diseases of the colon separately from those of the other parts of the intestinal canal. In its structure, its functions, and its bacterial flora, the colon presents such differences from the small intestine that corresponding variations in its diseases are only what we should expect.

Mr. Mummery is of opinion that diseases of the colon are becoming more frequent, and this he is inclined to attribute principally to modern methods of dietary, which aim at reducing the amount of cellulose in the food to a minimum, and so remove one of the chief stimuli to peristalsis and digestion.

The present exposition of the diseases of the colon, which is founded on the author's Jacksonian Prize Essay of 1909, is entirely satisfactory. If we were to select any chapters for special commendation, they would be those on the Physiology of the Colon, Normal and Morbid, on Malignant Disease, and on Chronic Colitis.

In the last named section the author succeeds in presenting a clear and intelligible description of this obscure condition, and his favourable opinion of van Noorden's principle of treatment accords with our own.

A brief description of the operations on the colon lends completeness to the work.
Contributions to Abdominal Surgery. By the late Harold Leslie Barnard, M.S., F.R.C.S. Edited by James Sherran, F.R.C.S. Pp. 384. London: Edwin Arnold. 1910.

Mr. Sherran has laid the medical profession under a deep debt of gratitude by undertaking the task of editing this selection of the contributions made to the literature of surgery by his friend and colleague, the late Harold Leslie Barnard.

From the short memoir, written with such force and feeling by Dr. H. H. Bashford, those of us who had not the privilege of knowing Mr. Barnard can form some idea of what his death meant to his intimates. The remainder of the volume brings home to all the loss sustained by British Surgery by his untimely death. The sections on Intestinal Obstruction and on the Surgical Aspects of Subphrenic Abscess are masterpieces of scientific investigation and exposition, and even if they stood alone, would form no unworthy monument to a worker who, when he was called hence, had scarcely reached the age of forty.

His friends are to be congratulated on the wisdom of their choice as to the form his memorial should take, and on the admirable manner of its execution.

Urgent Surgery. By Felix Lajare, Professeur Agrégé à la Faculté de Médecine de Paris, Chirurgien de l’Hôpital Saint-Antoine, Membre de la Société de Chirurgie. Translated from the Sixth French Edition by William S. Dickie, F.R.C.S.Eng., Surgeon, North Riding Infirmary, Middlesborough, &c. Pp. 617. With 20 Full Page Plates, and 994 Illustrations. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Ltd.; London: Simpkin Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co., Ltd. 1909. Price 25s. net.

The fact that the original has reached the sixth edition in a few years shows the well deserved success which this work has attained. The author truly points out in the preface that urgent surgery does not mean merely the surgery of injuries; at the present day the number of clinical conditions requiring immediate surgical action is very great. Those who are not operators themselves should at least know something of the details of the operation, and the idea of an operation being a vague and distant event, to be invoked only as a last and desperate resource, should give place to a clearer conception of the possibilities and limitations of modern surgery.

The volume under review contains half of the original work. Section I. deals with equipment, with the best plan of action in a case of extreme urgency with a complete lack of necessaries, with anaesthesia—general, local, and special—and with the use of saline infusion. In the subsequent section the urgent surgery of the skull,
face, mouth, nose, eye, and ear, the neck, thorax, spine, and abdomen, including acute conditions due to torsion of pedicle and rupture of extra-uterine gestations, are considered.

The various subjects are treated with completeness, and with an abundance of illustrations which include what may be thought simple, but are none the less important details. There are also introduced through the book clinical cases, in order to show what ought to be done, and how it ought to be done.

The book is trustworthy, and will prove of value not only to those who have had little experience in the practice of surgery, but to many others.

The translation has been done in an admirable manner.

*Preparatory and After-Treatment in Operative Cases.* By H. A. Haubold, M.D., Clinical Professor in Surgery, New York University, &c. Pp. 650. New York and London: D. Appleton & Co. 1910. Price 25s.

This large volume is an example of over-specialisation, and the question arises to whom it is to appeal. It is avowedly written for the practitioner, that he may be trained to make all the preparations for an operation, and carry out the after-treatment, leaving the surgeon nothing to do but bring his instruments and perform the operation. This would indeed be the surgeon's millennium, but its consummation is impossible in the present generation. Leaving out of account the author's intention as impracticable, we yet find much of value for the surgeon and nurse. The sections on the preparatory treatment, which occupy more than half the book, are written with a clear idea of the advantages and limitations of purely aseptic methods, and lucid descriptions are given of the various details. The chapters on the after-treatment, though apt to be faddish at parts, are interesting and suggestive, but except in abdominal cases they pay scant attention to the unavoidable sequels which are the frequent source of worry to the family physician. Of the 429 illustrations the majority are well chosen and clearly reproduced, but a number are superfluous. In the preface a lurid, but we hope deceptive, sidelight is thrown on present-day ethics in the American medical world. Finding that he was acting the part of a mere feeder to the surgeon, the practitioner "took his patient to the surgeon, arranged for the fee to be charged, but exacted that he be given a certain proportion of the fee in compensation for bringing the case. . . . There can be no doubt that this sort of thing has been and is constantly done."
Gall-Stones; their Complications and Treatment. By A. W. Mayo Robson, F.R.C.S., and P. J. Cammidge, M.D. Pp. 313. Oxford University Press: Henry Frowde. 1909. Price 5s.

The names of the authors, whose wide experience of these conditions from the operative and laboratory aspects respectively is well known, are a sufficient guarantee of the value of the opinions expressed in the book. Their views have been expressed elsewhere, but are usefully collected in this volume, which is necessarily more comprehensive than its title would indicate, as questions of differential diagnosis introduce pancreatic and other conditions not dependent upon gall-stones. The anatomy of the biliary passages, the character and composition of bile and of gall-stones, and theories as to the mode of formation of the latter are discussed. So too are the symptoms of cholelithiasis; and in the diagnosis of stone in the common duct great importance is attached to a combination of jaundice of varying intensity, ague-like paroxysms, and pains in the region of the liver, with epigastric disturbance at the time of the paroxysm. The last eighty pages are devoted to treatment. Medical treatment, apart from treatment during an actual attack of biliary colic, is regarded as only preventive, not curative; but, as gall-stones seem to depend on an organismal infection of the biliary passages, treatment of patients by urotropine and similar drugs during the course of such infective diseases as typhoid will probably diminish the liability to cholelithiasis. When gall-stones are present, and no relief is derived from medical measures, operation is called for, especially as the majority of cases of carcinoma of the bile passages seem to be due to the irritation of antecedent stones. The various operations are described, and it is interesting to note the reaction against cholecystectomy except in absolutely essential cases. Removal of the gall-bladder takes away the bile reservoir, deprives the bile of a large admixture of mucus, and thereby seems to cause a greater tendency to pancreatitis, and is apt to cause cystic and cirrhotic changes in the liver. "Cammidge's reaction" in the urine seems to be regarded by the authors as proof of pancreatic affection.

Public Health: Sanitary Law and Practice. A Handbook of Public Health for Students, Sanitary Inspectors, and all engaged in Municipal and Public Health Work. By W. Robertson, M.D. (Glas.), D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, Leith, and Chas. Porter, M.D.(Edin.), B.Sc., Barrister-at-Law (Middle Temple), Medical Officer of Health, Metropolitan Borough of Finsbury. Second Edition. Pp. 694. The Sanitary Publishing Co. May 1909. Price 10s. 6d.

The joint-authors of this handsomely bound and well got up volume are both well-known medical officers of health—the one practising in
Leith and the other in London—and this circumstance gives an assurance that the subjects dealt with will be considered from the British and not, as so very often happens, from the purely English point of view. In Scotland, since the Local Government Act of 1889, the system of Public Health administration has been revolutionised, and with a more recent and much more efficient Public Health Act in Scotland than in the sister country more life is thrown into the work in rural districts certainly than in England.

This book has been revised and enlarged since the first edition was published, and new chapters on the Control of Tuberculosis and on Vital Statistics have been added. A considerable amount of legislation dealing with the public health has been passed since 1904 (when the first edition was published), and the book has been brought up to date in this subject. Dr. Porter is not only a medical officer of health, but a barrister as well, and no doubt his legal knowledge and training have been largely drawn upon in the sections dealing with legal questions.

The number and variety of topics which are treated of in this book show what a vast and complex field the subject of public health has become, and whether specialism is to be advocated as a general principle or not—it almost looks as if the march of events would compel a redistribution of the duties now put on one man's shoulders. Take the legal sections alone, and consider how many Acts of Parliament are there brought into play: General Public Health Acts, River Pollution Acts, Housing Acts, Food Acts, Dairies Orders, Notification Acts, Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts, Burgh Police Acts, Shop Hours Acts, &c. In relation to these controlling Acts there have to be considered—Nuisances; smoke nuisances; offensive trades; lodging houses; tents, vans and sheds; water supplies; chemical analyses; sewage and sewers, and sewage purification; unsound food; food adulteration; vaccination; epidemics; medical inspection of school children, and so forth. To be an efficient administrator and executive officer, the medical officer of health must be in possession of general and special knowledge of architecture, plumbing, meteorology, physics, chemistry and bacteriology, and of even greater importance than any of these, he must be a well qualified medical man. Without claiming for the medical officer of health any more than that he possesses fair average abilities, it may be conceded he must carry in his head a complexing medley of information.

This volume is designed to make the path easier for the aspirant to official work, and it does so admirably. No work, certainly not the crammer's "royal road," can possibly make it easy to those who have to face the ordeal of examinations, or the much more exacting test of public trial of official life. In that trial by jury the man alone who possesses tact and sound judgment, is not prone to wrath or malice, is endowed with a full measure of common sense and with full know-
ledge of his duties, can expect to win success, moderate fame, and a moderate return for his invaluable services.

This book will certainly assist students, officials and administrators in a manner not found in similar books with a like object.

\textit{A Practical Guide to Meat Inspection} (Walley). By \textsc{Stewart Stockman}, M.R.C.V.S. Fifth Edition, Rewritten and Enlarged. With Illustrations. Pp. 270. Edinburgh and London: William Green & Sons. 1909. Price 10s. 6d.

We know of no manual of meat inspection which in so small a space contains so much reliable information. The three editions which rapidly succeeded one another soon after the manual was published by the late Professor Walley in 1890 testified to the high opinion which the veterinary and public health authorities placed on it. That it has gained immensely in value by the able revision of Dr. Stewart Stockman is seen by comparing this with the third edition. Indeed, so much has been added to bring it down to date, that it may almost be said to be a new book laid down on the old and familiar lines. The introductory chapter forms most interesting reading, and in the following chapters careful directions are given as to the methods to be followed in the inspection of meat. We are glad to note that Mr. Stockman is a humanitarian, and advocates the practice of stunning every animal before its slaughter. A short but suggestive chapter on Food Poisoning is contributed by Professor Ralph Stockman of Glasgow. The illustrations are numerous and helpful. To Inspectors of Food this practical guide will prove of the utmost value.

\textit{Eléments d'obstétrique}. Par le Dr. V. Wallich, Professeur agréé à la faculté de médecine de Paris. Second edition. With 135 illustrations. Pp. 718. Paris: G. Steinheil. 1910. Price 8 francs.

Dr. Wallich's treatise on midwifery is a thoroughly reliable one, containing a great amount of information on obstetrical matters, well digested, compressed, and stated with that particular clearness and force which the French language permits. The illustrations are numerous, many of them are taken from Farabeuf and Varnier, and, by reason of their diagrammatic character, they are likely to be of much assistance to the reader. The work is divided into the three sections of \textit{normal obstetrics} (normal pregnancy, labour, and the puerperium), \textit{obstetrical pathology} (pathological pregnancy, dystocia, and the morbid puerperium), and \textit{operations} (extractive operations and embryotomies). The methods and instruments described are, of course, those
in use in France, and the work is, on that account, not so suitable for the student of the British school of obstetrics; but the teacher or specialist will find in it much that is of value, and several things which he may be led to adopt as perhaps “better managed in France.”

A Text-Book of Obstetrics. By Barton Cooke Hirst, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics in the University of Pennsylvania, Gynecologist to the Howard, the Orthopaedie, and the Philadelphia Hospitals, &c. Sixth Edition, Revised and Enlarged, with 847 Illustrations, 43 of them in Colours. Pp. 992. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1909.

This admirable work on obstetrics has now so well established a place in the good opinions of the profession and of medical studentdom that the appearance of a sixth edition calls for little more than renewed congratulations to the author and publisher. The feature of this edition is the part dealing with operations, and more especially with what may be termed the gynecological operations—those which may be rendered necessary by faulty obstetrics (repair of lacerations, correction of displacements, &c.), or by morbid processes arising during pregnancy (chorion-epithelioma, &c.). In this section are to be found details usually confined to text-books on gynecology; they will prove most useful to the obstetric specialist as well as to the general practitioner who prefers or is compelled to do his own operative work; and the operative procedures, except perhaps that for the repair of a recto-vaginal fistula, are described with sufficient minuteness to be of real service. The already numerous illustrations of earlier editions have been largely added to; but a list of them, following the table of contents, would be a great convenience. It is curious that the author should describe various ways of extracting the after-coming head and not mention Smellie’s method. The extra-peritoneal (supra-symphysary) Cesarean section is not described in detail, and renal decapsulation in eclampsia is only named.

The Practice of Midwifery. Being the Seventh Edition of Dr. Galabin’s Manual of Midwifery, greatly enlarged and extended by Alfred Lewis Galabin, M.A., M.D.(Cantab.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.); and George Blacker, M.D., B.S.(Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), F.R.C.P.(Lond.). Illustrated with 503 Engravings. Pp. 1123. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1910. Price 18s. net.

New editions are often described as practically new books, and in the present case the statement is true every whit. Between the sixth edition of Galabin’s Manual and the Galabin and Blacker’s
Practice there is indeed a notable difference in size, in material, and in illustration. In the years that have intervened the development of the early ovum and the diseases and injuries of the foetus have been studied in detail; the hydatidiform mole has become a matter of great importance in relation to the origin of malignant tumours of the uterus; the investigation of eclampsia has been continued with some indications that prevention, if not cure, is within sight at last; the search for some other anaesthetic than chloroform has been carried on more particularly by those who have thought that the dangers attending chloroform in surgical practice also existed in connection with obstetric cases; and a large number of cutting operations have been devised for the delivery of women possessing narrow pelves. The results of these movements (some of which are also advances) in the obstetric world are seen in the present text-book, and space is given to embryology, to seopolamine morphine narcosis, to vaginal Caesarean section, subcutaneous symphysiotomy, pubiotomy, and supravaginal hysterectomy, to the new theories of eclampsia, and to newer methods of dilating the cervix and inducing labour. Early rising in the puerperium is left severely alone, the authors saying, "if possible the patient should keep her bed for ten days, or for a longer time if the discharge is still sanguineous, and she should return to it if getting up brings on again a red discharge" (pp. 405-406). The treatment of eclampsia is also conservative in character—chloroform, morphia, chloral, and bromides being the chosen drugs; the emptying of the uterus is advisable if the case is at all severe. A word of praise is to be given to the illustrations of this work; they are excellent. Perhaps an arrow indicating the direction in which the child's arm is being carried would be of advantage in Fig. 401. As a whole, the text-book is one which may be safely and warmly recommended, and the publishers have as usual done their part well.