the right, the lower at the left angle of the trigone, and the renal mass occupied the right lumbar region.

(c) Disc-shaped kidney.
The hilum faced anteriorly and antero-internally. Two distinct pelves, one above the other. The lower ureter faced to the right of the trigone, the upper ureter to the left.\(^1\)

Dr. Newman also referred to various anomalies in the pelvis, ureters, and blood-vessels, as illustrated by cases observed in the Royal Infirmary.

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**REVIEWS.**

*Surgical Diagnosis and Treatment.* By J. W. Macdonald, M.D. London: The Rebman Publishing Co., Ltd. 1898.

The object of this book is, as the author states, to offer a solution to two questions which present themselves in all cases—"What is the disease or injury?" and "What is the proper treatment?" In carrying out his plan, he has worked on lines which differ considerably from those adopted by previous writers on the subject of surgical diagnosis. These latter have taken up a condition, say, chronic disease of a joint, and then indicate by a process of exclusion the various affections that may be met with, and we believe that this is the correct method to follow in all clinical teaching, whether it be by book or actual demonstration.

The work before us, however, is in fact a text-book of regional surgery. The author takes up the various systems of the body, and goes through the injuries and diseases to which they are liable seriatim, but without any reference, practically, either to the pathology or etiology of the conditions described. In many places, too, he loses sight of the two questions he proposed to answer, so that, from the clinical aspect, the work is unequal. At times the points of differential diagnosis are given in a manner which leaves nothing to be desired, while at others they are not touched upon, the author giving merely a description of the individual diseases.

\(^1\) Royal Hospital for Sick Children Museum.
So, too, as regards the question of treatment. Now, it is dismissed with a mention of several methods, without any indication as to when one method may be more advisable than another; and again, a lengthy description of some operation is given, which we cannot help thinking is uncalled for in a book of this kind. There is another error which the author falls into occasionally, and one which is, unfortunately, rather common in books nowadays. We refer to a habit of labelling a given symptom or form of treatment with some individual's name. To speak to students of "M'Burney's point," or "Dobell's solution," &c., without mentioning the constituents of the one or the site of the other, is useless. At the same time, there is a great deal in the book which deserves high praise. The information throughout is thoroughly well up to date in all modern surgical progress, and in his directions as to how to set about the examination of a region the author is exceedingly good.

After a few notes on case-taking by way of introduction, there is a fairly good chapter on the diseases of the vascular system, followed by one dealing with the osseous system which is also satisfactory, though neither differs in any special manner from what one will find in an ordinary text-book on surgery. The chapter treating of the injuries and diseases of joints is good; but we are not prepared to accept the description given of the mechanism in the production of dislocation at the hip-joint, and we regret to find that the illustrations of these conditions depict patients in the standing posture—a student would obtain a much more useful idea of the attitude of a patient with dislocation at the hip if the illustrations represented the condition as seen in practice. There is a capital clinical description of tubercular disease of the hip-joint, but the pictures of the splints adapted for the ambulant treatment of this disease and the names of their inventors have got mixed up. The method of dealing with the diseases and injuries of the digestive system is excellent, and the chapter is one of the best in the book. An admirable description for the means of examination of the abdominal viscera is given. The question of diagnosis is fully entered into, and the lines of treatment judiciously indicated. Hernia is very well done; so are the surgical affections of the intestines and of the liver and gall-bladder. Altogether, we consider this account of abdominal surgery one of the best with which we are acquainted.

There is a good description of genito-urinary diseases, and that of cranial surgery is quite satisfactory. Intra-cranial
suppuration and the diagnosis and treatment of tumours of the brain are well done.

Along with the account of fractures of the spine, the author gives a table of the functions of the segments of the cord which may prove very useful in locating the site of an injury, but in describing the rotation of the vertebrae which occurs in lateral curvature he has reversed the actual state of affairs. The account of the respiratory system is, on the whole, good. There is a chapter on syphilis, a subject which might afford plenty of scope for diagnosis, but beyond a table distinguishing between syphilitic and tubercular orchitis, this question is not touched upon. A short account of tumours in general follows—it is unsatisfactory and, as we think, unnecessary, for the neoplasms of each region have been already dealt with. The book ends with an account of the use of the x rays in surgery.

Although, as we have said, this work does not quite fulfil its object as laid down by the author in his preface, we consider that he has achieved a very considerable success. The book will not take the place of the ordinary text-books, but may be safely recommended as giving, on the whole, an excellent account of modern surgery. The publishers have done their part well. The book is admirably got up and well illustrated, the illustrations being for the most part original and done from photographs. A more complete index would have been an improvement.

**Diabetes Mellitus and its Treatment.** By R. T. Williamson, M.D. Lond. With Eighteen Illustrations (Two Coloured). Edinburgh and London: Young J. Pentland. 1898.

There is perhaps no disease in the whole range of nosology concerning whose essential nature more discussion has taken place than diabetes mellitus. There is no disease, also, which, in its more severe forms at least, is more easily recognised; and yet, notwithstanding this, we are still very far from having arrived at anything like certainty with regard to its pathogenesis and its relation to physiological processes. The character of the problems involved in, and the nature of the investigations necessary for, the elucidation of the complex physiological chemistry of diabetes mellitus, force the practitioner to occupy the position of an onlooker, exercising his commonsense whilst he endeavours, often vainly, to follow the varying fortunes of the belligerent experts, whose methods of controversy are frequently altogether beneath the dignity.
of science. To the practitioner, wearied and confused by the shrieks of contending schools and the personalities of leading authorities, the present volume is likely to prove a welcome relief. The work is an exhaustive and carefully compiled statement of modern teaching with reference to diabetes mellitus as regards its pathology, diagnosis, and treatment. And yet not merely a compilation, but a compilation based upon a solid substratum of original clinical and pathological observation. The author has had abundant opportunities as medical registrar to the Manchester Royal Infirmary for making a practical study of diabetes, a study the results of which are specially apparent in his chapters on etiology and symptomatology. His cases illustrating the relationship of diabetes to lesions of the nervous system, and more especially to pancreatic lesions, form substantial contributions to scientific medicine. In 22 out of 23 cases of diabetes, he ascertained the condition of the pancreas microscopically as well as macroscopically. In 12 out of these 23, the pancreas "was either normal or only atrophied in proportion to the general wasting." It is the presence throughout the work of personal observations of this kind that raise it very distinctly above the level of a mere compilation. As a compilation, however, it is an exceedingly good one, full of accurate bibliographical references, and discriminating in the amount of space devoted to the various theories which the author endeavours to expound. As a good illustration of Dr. Williamson's style, we would specially refer the reader to Chapter III, "Physiological Considerations." The chapter is an excellent résumé. The reader has his memory refreshed, and takes a new interest in the divergent views of Claud Bernard and Pavy. The author wisely takes up no strong position in the matter, though possibly he leans to the teaching of the great French physiologist. The reader is left to form his own opinion, and we hope that, like ourselves, he will arrive at the conclusion that, on the whole, Pavy gives a very good account of himself. The chapter on treatment, though perhaps a little long drawn out, will prove of great service to the practitioner. We have no hesitation in cordially recommending the book.

A Manual of Bacteriology. By Richard T. Hewlett, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. Lond. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1898.

Of the many text-books on bacteriology now published in England, the latest, that by Dr. Hewlett, is one of the best.
We admire the style of the author and the completeness of his work. Not a word or phrase seems to have been used unnecessarily, so that, while the book only consists of 425 pages, it is, notwithstanding, one of the most complete treatises we have on this subject. But, perhaps, the outstanding feature is the up-to-date information this manual contains. Here we have stated the results of the most recent researches, such as, for example, the relationship of the streptococcus erysipelatus to the streptococcus pyogenes (Bulloch), the relationship of the pseudo-diphtheria bacillus to the Klebs-Löffler bacillus (Hewlett and Knight), the gonococcus and gonorrhœal infection (Foulerton), &c.

As to the arrangement of the work, the author follows the usual course—first describing the methods of research, and then giving a description of the different micro-organisms. The pathogenic germs are each described at some length, and at the end of each description full and clear directions as to bacteriological diagnosis are given. The results of investigations in such diseases as beri-beri, conjunctivitis, rheumatism, yellow fever, &c., are given in a separate chapter; and we have a very exhaustive description of the methods employed in making a bacteriological examination of water, air, soil, &c. A full and interesting account of bacterial remedies is given in an appendix. There are numerous illustrations, the majority photo-micrographs, which reflect credit on the photographer, Mr. Barnard. We have no hesitation in strongly recommending this work to students and practitioners.

The Blood: How to Examine and Diagnose its Diseases. By Alfred C. Coles, M.D., B.Sc. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1898.

Much attention in recent years has been devoted to the blood and its diseases, so that the publication of this book by Dr. Coles cannot but be most welcome to all those wishing to acquire a sound and concise knowledge of what is now known on this important subject.

The book is essentially clinical, and it confines itself mainly to a consideration of the histological appearances of the blood. The preface says—"No mention is made of the question of the chemical examination of the blood, partly because it is work that can only be done in a laboratory, and partly that up to the present the results so obtained have not proved to be of that clinical value which they may ultimately reach."
The general plan of the book is as follows:—First, the methods of examination are dealt with in considerable detail, many practical hints being given as to the preparing and staining of blood-films, the counting of corpuscles, estimation of haemoglobin, &c. The morphology of the blood is then considered. The remainder of the book is taken up with an account of the pathological appearances of the blood as found in the various anaemias and other diseases.

The book, we have said, is clinical, and as such it is most valuable in containing a record of the condition of the blood in the different diseases. But we think that more attention might with advantage have been paid to the interpretation of these clinical phenomena, and of their relationship and dependence on one another. To this might have been added a more detailed account of what is known of the origin, function, and minute structure of the various corpuscles. This, however, is perhaps outside the scope of the work.

The book is well illustrated by means of coloured plates, and in its printing and binding fully sustains the reputation of its publishers.

The Medical Examination for Life Assurance, with Remarks on the Selection of an Office. By F. de Haviland Hall, M.D. Bristol: John Wright & Co. 1898.

The reader will peruse this book in an hour, so that it is not very large. Within its small compass, however, it contains a large amount of well-arranged information of great value to the insurance medical examiner. There is nothing here that a well-informed physician should not know, but the subject matter has been so well arranged that the small book will be of the greatest service for ready reference. We have great pleasure in commending it.

Diseases of the Eye: a Manual for Senior Students. By J. Arthur Kempe, F.R.C.S. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1897.

This little book is specially designed as an aid to students for examination purposes. It epitomises the most common diseases of the eye methodically and scientifically. It admirably answers its purpose.
In this work of something over a hundred pages, Professor Babes, of Bucarest, has succeeded in presenting to his readers one of the most complete and accurate accounts of the histology and bacteriology of leprosy that it has been our privilege to peruse. At the Leprosy Congress in October, 1897, the author introduced the discussion on the histology of leprosy, and the present volume is the outcome of a request by many members of the Congress that he would publish his observations in detail. To those who have perhaps not time to peruse the whole work we would specially recommend the study of Chapter X, which contains a carefully written summary of all the essential points. We quite agree with the author's criticism of Unna's assertion that the bacilli are never contained in the interior of the cells. From personal observation we are convinced that they are very frequently intra-cellular in position, although we have also often seen them outside the corpuscles. There is a comprehensive bibliography, and the beautiful chromo-lithographic plates are beyond all praise as accurate and illustrative pictures of the histological phenomena.

ABSTRACTS FROM CURRENT MEDICAL LITERATURE.

SURGERY.

By T. W. JENKINS, M.A., M.D.

Gonococcus.—Weinrich (Annales des Maladies des Organes Génito-Urinaires, May, 1898) considers various methods of staining, and concludes that Gram's, as described by the author, has the greatest value from the point of view of differential diagnosis; one condition is that absolute alcohol alone shall be used for decoloration, and no water employed till after the alcohol has acted. It is the addition of water that has led to the depreciation of the method. Following Fränkel, Weinrich finds that a 2½ per cent carbolic acid solution is as satisfactory as the more unstable aniline water. His procedure is (1) Fränkel's solution (saturated alcoholic solution of gentian violet, 10 c.c.;