The Principles and Practice of Medicine, designed for the Use of Practitioners and Students of Medicine. By Sir William Osler, Bart., M.D., F.R.S., F.R.C.P. Eight Edition, largely rewritten and thoroughly revised with the assistance of Thos. M'Crae, M.D., F.R.C.P. New York and London: D. Appleton & Co. 1912.

To one who recalls the delight with which he first systematically studied Sir William Osler's treatise, and the charm which attached itself to his first personal discovery of its extraordinary merits, the appearance of each new edition is a matter of moment, and it is an obvious duty to secure a copy for the study table or bookshelf as early as possible. In reflecting on this treatise as one has known it in the past, one recognises the attractive literary style, the wide learning, the great industry, and the immense wealth of pathological and clinical experience which it displays as features which have contributed to secure for it its high position in medical literature. Systems and encyclopaedias of medicine, in the production of which many writers co-operate, are unsatisfactory in one respect, namely, the diversity of merit of different articles; but in a work by a single author a more or less uniform standard is attained, and by its merits the book will succeed or fail. In Sir William Osler's Principles and Practice of Medicine we have merit of the highest order, and its success, which has been very great, is richly merited.

Twenty years have now elapsed since the first edition was published, and, as the author remarks, when the first edition is compared with the present, very little of the original work remains. The present edition has been to a considerable extent rewritten, and there has been a good deal of rearrangement. The infectious diseases have been grouped in a different way, and there are now included among them certain disorders such as acute poliomyelitis and acute tonsillitis, which, in the seventh edition, published three years ago, found their nosological position elsewhere. The rapid advance of medical science has necessitated the introduction of much
new matter, and among the subjects for which new sections have been prepared are Leishmaniasis, the sporotrichoses, the colon infections, poliomyelitis, pellagra, disorders of metabolism, caisson disease, ochronosis, haemochromatosis, the disorders of the organs of internal secretion, and the diseases of the blood. In the seventh edition diseases of the muscles had a section to themselves, whereas they are now included along with diseases of the joints and diseases of the bones in a section which is entitled diseases of the locomotor system.

No medical library can be regarded as complete or up to date which does not possess a copy of the latest edition of this work, and we now most heartily recommend it to the careful attention of every reader.

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Deformities, including Diseases of the Bones and Joints: A Text-Book of Orthopaedic Surgery. By A. H. Tubby, M.S.Lond., F.R.C.S. Second Edition. Illustrated by 70 Plates and over 1,000 Figures. In Two Volumes. London: Macmillan & Co. 1912.

This is the second edition of the author’s work on deformities, but, as the title indicates, the scope of the work has been greatly widened, and now includes a description of arthritic and osseous diseases. This edition, therefore, is practically a new work.

The various subjects with which it deals have been grouped on ætiological and pathological bases in preference to the regional classification adopted in the first edition. They are arranged in ten sections, of which those on congenital deformities, non-congenital deformities of the extremities, static deformities, and affections of muscles, tendons, bursæ, and fasciæ are included in the first volume.

In the introduction the author defines orthopaedic surgery as comprising the surgery of deformities of the apparatus of locomotion in all three aspects—ætiological, prophylactic, and therapeutic. He then passes to a consideration of the ætiology—separating congenital from acquired deformities, and dwelling at some length on these two classes.

The subject-matter of the volume opens with the deformities of congenital origin, such as deformities of the trunk, torticollis, congenital dislocation, and club-foot.

Of the deformities of the trunk, details of congenital scoliosis are given. This subject is followed by a very good
account of spina bifida and its treatment, in which the author draws attention to the poor late-results of operative treatment. There is next an interesting account of cervical ribs, followed by a detailed description of Sprengel’s shoulder. This subject is freely illustrated.

Torticollis has a chapter to itself. The author is dogmatic on the subject of treatment. “Subcutaneous tenotomy . . . has been abandoned of every surgeon of experience. . . . Open division of the muscle is the only rational method.” With this statement we do not agree. Then, when the treatment of posterior torticollis is considered, we are surprised not to find any mention of section of the posterior branches of the cervical nerves.

Congenital dislocation of the hip is very fully dealt with, not only as regards treatment, but also as regards aetiology and pathological anatomy. The author sums up in favour of manipulative procedure. There is next a lengthy consideration of talipes, in the treatment of which the author strongly and rightly insists on over-correction of the varus, before attending to the equinus, element.

In the section on non-congenital deformities of the extremities we find such conditions as trigger-finger, drop-finger, contraction of tendo Achillis, and acquired clubfoot. Various surgical procedures for the treatment of the last-named are given in detail, and the subject is fully illustrated. We are thus brought to static deformities, under which heading are grouped scoliosis, genu valgum, and various forms of foot-trouble.

In Volume II diseases, tuberculous and infective, of bones and joints are considered. There are also special sections on rickets, and arthritis and spondylitis deformans. A considerable amount of space is devoted to the subject of paralytic deformities, and there are several appendices dealing with various questions regarding tuberculosis.

The author is very concise in his remarks on the treatment of spinal abscess. He does not write for the junior student, but the surgeon reading his sentences (on p. 110) will at once perceive that, though concise, they really contain the kernel of the matter. Excision of the elbow for tuberculosis is given at greater length; but it is marked by the same commonsense and judgment. The author’s views on the treatment of dactylitis are good, and we agree with him that hasty operation is not to be recommended.

The treatment of deformities arising from infantile paralysis is given at length. We would specially recommend to our
Readers the section on tendon-transplantation. The whole, however, of this part of the volume is very well done.

Among other good features of the volumes we would mention the numerous illustrations. These and the copious references to literature enhance the value of a work which we can whole-heartedly recommend.

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**Meningitis, Sinus Thrombosis, and Abscess of the Brain.**
By John Wyllie, M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1911.

This work has been written with the object of presenting in small compass the salient features of the diseases mentioned in the title, and, while lacking in detail at parts, it forms a useful working guide in the diagnosis of these somewhat difficult disorders. The various conditions are treated separately, and a special chapter is devoted to differential diagnosis.

The frequent mention of lumbar puncture for purposes of cyto-diagnosis and treatment has induced the author to append a note on the history and different uses of this procedure.

A chapter on diseases of the nasal accessory sinuses is also included, these being considered important causes of intracranial mischief.

The volume is dedicated by the author to the memory of his former teacher, the late Professor Sir Thomas M'M Call Anderson.

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**Diseases of the Nose and Throat, comprising affections of the Trachea and Oesophagus.** By StClair Thomson, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. London: Cassell & Co., Limited. 1911.

The book opens with a short account of the embryology of the nose, pharynx, and larynx. The defensive arrangements of the upper air tract form the next section, special consideration being given to the bactericidal functions of the nose and the protective influence of Waldeyer's ring.

In Chapter II the methods of examination are described with lucidity, and in greater detail than in any text-book we remember. Sections on hypopharyngoscopy, direct laryngoscopy, bronchoscopy, and oesophagoscopy are also furnished;
we miss, however, descriptions of the normal appearances in the lower air passages and oesophagus.

In Chapter III explicit directions are given as to methods of treatment. The application of heat by means of fomentations, Leiter’s tubes, &c., is recommended in acute affections of the accessory cavities; a better effect can be obtained, however, with Brünings’ electric light head bath, a simple modification of which can be made with a large biscuit box and incandescent lamp. Local anaesthesia is fully discussed, including the suitable doses and modes of use of cocaine, the symptoms and treatment of the intoxication it may produce, and the substitutes for cocaine and their respective advantages.

The special conditions and dangers of operations are dealt with in the next chapter. This embraces sections on the prevention and arrest of local haemorrhage, the protection of the lower air passages from the descent of blood, and the avoidance of shock, sepsis, and reflex sequelæ.

The diseases of the nose, which occupy the following two hundred pages, are prefaced by chapters on “Symptoms of nasal disease” and “Taking cold.”

The author considers the locus Kiesselbachii as the most frequent site of the bleeding point in epistaxis. This, in our experience, is much oftener the main trunk of the artery of the septum which runs upwards from the floor close to and parallel with the junction of skin and mucous membrane, and which is well shown in Fig. 56. Under rhinitis sicca mention might have been made of the variety affecting the cartilaginous part of the septum, which has been specially described by Ribary under the name rhinitis sicca anterior.

As might be expected from the earliest exponent of the operation in this country, submucous resection of the septum is admirably described and illustrated.

Amongst the nasal neuroses, hay-fever and spasmodic rhinorrhœa—the latter being the term suggested by the author for the affection generally known as vasomotor rhinitis—are described together, and in a subsequent section nasal hydorrhœa is dealt with. In our opinion hay-fever should be kept apart, and spasmodic or vasomotor sneezing, rhinorrhœa, and intumescence should be grouped together. The etiology of hay-fever, in a large measure, is understood, while that of the affection characterised by one or more of the three symptoms mentioned is in many cases obscure. Further, subjects of one disease do not often suffer from the other, and the treatment of the two conditions differs.
Cerebro-spinal rhinorrhoea, for the elucidation of which we are indebted to the author, is a distinct affection, and receives separate treatment at his hands. We are doubtful, however, as to the propriety of grouping it with the nasal neuroses.

About seventy pages are devoted to diseases of the accessory cavities. The author has apparently aimed at mentioning all possible or recorded causes, symptoms, complications, &c., but in doing so has lost sight of their relative importance, and some of the commoner conditions are disposed of too cursorily. Negative pressure by means of Sondermann's or Muck's apparatus as a diagnostic aid should have been mentioned. The descriptions of the operations on the antrum and frontal sinus are particularly good. The section on mucocele throws no new light on an obscure affection; we doubt that it can arise from cystic dilatation of a gland of the lining membrane.

Diseases of the naso-pharynx come under consideration in the following section. Of these, post-nasal growths naturally claim chief attention. The author refers to the fact that the beneficial results of operation are not always proportionate to the amount of growth removed, and suggests the possibility of this being due to an internal secretion. It has been shown, however, chiefly by Italian investigators, that this view is wrong, and that a more likely explanation is the occasional presence of a downward continuation of the hypophysis cerebri, which undergoes changes after removal of adenoids. For acute inflammation of the pharyngeal tonsil in infants, it is recommended to instil into the nose 5 per cent solution of menthol. This is much too strong; alarming symptoms in several instances, and at least one fatal accident, have followed the use of the drug under such conditions (see Leroux, Ann. des mal. de l'oreille, 1911).

It would be difficult to improve the chapters on the palatine tonsils. The objections to removal are disposed of, and the various modes of operating and of arresting the subsequent haemorrhage are fully described and illustrated.

Vincent's angina receives due consideration. The author evidently holds that it is identical with acute ulcerative lacunar tonsillitis, although Moure, who first described the latter disease, regards them as two distinct affections. Membranous sore throat (non-diphtheritic) is disposed of in less than a page. The author, with advantage, might have described the typical appearances produced by the various micro-organisms. Reference might also have been made to
the occasional destructive action of the pneumococcus and to angina sarcinica.

In the chapter on diseases of the lingual tonsil it is stated that removal of a thyroid tumour at the base of the tongue "can generally be effected through the mouth by a wire snare, morcellement, or a lingual guillotine." Such measures should not be advocated without a warning of the severe hæmorrhage that may follow.

The author does not differentiate collections of pus in the lateral pharyngeal space projecting into the pharynx from retro-pharyngeal abscess, nor does he point out that treatment should vary according as an abscess originates in, or behind, the retro-pharyngeal space.

An excellent section on the larynx extends to over one hundred pages. The chapter on neuroses contains a useful table, contrasting recurrent paralysis with ankylosis of the crico-arytenoid joint, and a valuable section detailing the laryngeal symptoms in intra-thoracic aneurysm. We miss references to Heymann's paper on toxic paralyses, Tapia's syndrome and paralysis following exposure to cold, usually termed "rheumatic."

Sir StClair Thomson has wisely included in his volume chapters on diseases of the trachea and œsophagus. In future editions we hope also to find short sections on the thyroid and thymus. The various conditions causing tracheal obstruction after tracheotomy are sometimes difficult to differentiate and deserve attention. Thost's monograph, published last year, may be consulted on this subject with advantage.

Treatment by intra-tracheal injections is referred to, but these as usually made have been proved by endoscopy to be almost useless. Ephraim's method of spraying the deep respiratory passages, on the other hand, commends itself as a rational therapeutic procedure.

The chapter on diseases of the œsophagus might be improved, especially as to arrangement. We notice a few inaccuracies and omissions, e.g., the usual site of cicatricial strictures, the number of cases of pressure pouch reported, and the absence of mention of paralysis of the œsophagus and peptic ulcer.

The chapters on tuberculosis and syphilis are deserving of the highest praise. Very explicit directions are given for the treatment of the latter disease.

The nose and throat in acute specific fevers, and in some general affections, e.g., gout, myxœdemæ, angio-neurotic
œdema, herpes, and pemphigus are considered. Under herpes no reference is made to herpes zoster or chronic recurring herpes.

The methods of removing foreign bodies from the air and food-passages and of performing certain operations, e.g., Rouge's, intubation, tracheotomy, and thyrotomy are excellently described and illustrated.

A collection of useful formulae and a very full index bring the volume to a close.

In our opinion, Sir StClair Thomson's book is the best on the nose and throat in the English language. It is entitled to this position by reason of its reliability and comprehensiveness, and the keen judicial spirit that it manifests throughout. It appeals to all workers in the speciality: to beginners by the detailed and lucid descriptions, especially of technique, and to the experienced specialist, as an up-to-date résumé of the subject set forth in an attractive style. An extensive bibliography is supplied which will enable the reader to study more fully the matters dealt with. British laryngology owes a special debt of gratitude to the author, who, while displaying a thorough acquaintance with foreign literature, does not fail to accord his countrymen full recognition of their work.

For and Against Experiments on Animals. Evidence before the Royal Commission on Vivisection. By STEPHEN PAGET, F.R.C.S. With an Introduction by The Right Hon. THE EARL OF CROMER, O.M., G.C.M.G., G.C.B. London: H. K. Lewis. 1912.

All who are interested in scientific research owe a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Stephen Paget for this compilation. A clear account of the chief results obtained during the past thirty years, by the help of experiments on animals, is given; and, so far as possible, this account has been stated in the very words of the men who did the work; while for ease of reference and comprehension these statements of fact have been grouped under the headings of physiology, medicine, surgery, the experimental study of drugs, tropical diseases, diseases of animals, and veterinary surgery. An equally fair hearing is accorded to those who are opposed to vivisection, and all that they can allege against the practice will be found here. The inception and constitution of the Research Defence Society are described, and its aims and objects touched upon.
The "Act to Amend the Law Relating to Cruelty to Animals" of 1876 is detailed. The Inspectors' Reports for 1910 are also given, and the volume concludes with a consideration of the final report of the Royal Commission on Vivisection, published 12th March, 1912.

Those who have neither the time nor the inclination to study the voluminous report of the Royal Commission, or the bulky minutes of evidence on which that report is based, will find this book most useful, since it will enable them, without undue labour and research, to form their own opinions. And, since it is practically impossible for anyone to escape from indebtedness to experiments on animals, it is most important that every ratepayer—who, in reality, vivisects by proxy—be thoroughly informed in these matters. Indeed, his education is not only most important—it is absolutely essential; for "it depends mainly on the view held by non-controversialists, representing the mass of public opinion in this country, whether the cause of scientific research is to stand or fall."

Lord Cromer contributes an introduction that is a model of temperance and conclusiveness.

Hypnosis and Suggestion: Their Nature, Action, Importance, and Position amongst Therapeutic Agents. By W. Hilger, M.D. Translated by R. W. Felkin, M.D., F.R.S.E. With an Introduction by Dr. van Renterghem; translated by A. Newbold. London: Rebman, Limited. 1912.

The introduction (to the Dutch edition) contains a historical survey of psycho-therapeutics for the last sixty years, and a commendatory note upon the author of the book. The remainder of the volume, which is a small one, comprising about 220 pages, is divided into four parts.

In Part I there is a short account of the introduction and use of hypnotism as a therapeutic agent, considerations regarding sleep and the nature of mental life during sleep, half sleep, how sleep approaches and how to induce it, the power and nature of suggestion, mental reflex action, and hypnotic methods. Part II deals with suggestion and will, and describes the significance of the supremacy of the idea of action in causing movement, and the influence of expectation, habit, and example in voluntary acts, as well as the influences of motive and of education in general and of free will in
particular. In Part III are discussed the nature of sensation, memory pictures, the treatment of disturbance of sensation and of pain that is purely physical. Part IV is on disturbances of reflex activity and their treatment. In all parts there are numerous examples given from cases that have been reported, or that have occurred in the author's own experience.

The translation appears to be literal; there is a good deal of clumsiness of expression, and occasional misuse of a word.

**Salvarsan in Syphilis and Allied Diseases.** By J. E. R. M'Donagh, F.R.C.S. London: Henry Frowde and Hodder & Stoughton. 1912.

This is what we have been waiting for—the practical man's book by one who, having had a wide experience of syphilis not only since but before the advent of salvarsan, is now able to speak with impartiality and authority as to what this drug does and does not do. The practitioner in search of advice as to the suitability of a particular case for treatment, or desirous of learning the minutiae of procedure and how to vary the same, will find here detailed and helpful guidance. The book is concise—a quality but rarely met with nowadays—lucid, and eminently sane. Our first exorbitant expectations in respect to salvarsan have become considerably moderated during the course of two years, and we are here shown how, if we but avail ourselves of the experience accumulated and frankly recognise that the Ehrlich-Hata remedy is not for all, there need be no more of those regrettable accidents that have too frequently occurred in the past. Neuro-recurrences and fatal cases are given their proper perspective; the necessity for extreme caution in syphilis of the nervous system is emphasised; and the danger and comparative failure of treatment in congenital disease are candidly admitted. The use of this drug has been followed by quite a crop of so-called re-infections, which have been triumphantly pointed to by some of their recorders as indisputable proof of the thorough destruction of the original spirochaetes. Dr. M'Donagh, however, considers that "pseudo- or auto-reinfection explains this condition satisfactorily," and implies that extirpation of the parasite is less common than many would have us believe. It is recognised that syphilis in the primary and secondary stages can be quickly cured, though not necessarily by one or two injections; and it is
demonstrated that the Wassermann tests must be much more searching if we are to avoid being satisfied with the insecurity of mere latency. "Provided the treatment is sufficiently pushed, there is no doubt that any case in the tertiary stage can be cured, and a permanent negative Wassermann reaction obtained," but many patients would probably be well advised to rest content with only relief from symptoms, since eradication of the disease is too tedious. Neo-salvarsan, according to M'Donagh, is easier to use and less toxic than salvarsan, and gives the impression that it is likewise more powerful. About four injections, he declares, are required in the primary stage, four to seven in the secondary, and from five to nine in the tertiary. Great stress is laid on the necessity for excision of the chancre, the importance of using freshly distilled water in the injections, and the advisability of also giving in all stages a thorough mercurial course. The enormous value of the "provocative injection" in exposing latency is also strongly insisted on. This is a genuine contribution to our knowledge, being a record of actual personal experience.

The Local Incidence of Cancer. By Charles E. Green, F.R.S.E. Edinburgh and London: William Green & Sons. 1912.

The contents of this interesting pamphlet are in great part reproduced from Mr. Green's The Cancer Problem, which was noticed in these pages last year. Some new tables have been added, showing the proportion of deaths from cancer to deaths from all other causes in certain parts of England, and in these the author finds further corroboration of his assertion "that almost without exception houses in which cases of cancer have occurred have badly drawing chimneys, or are exposed to smoke from outside chimneys closely adjoining." These conditions are in their turn dependent on pronounced irregularity of levels due to natural configuration of the landscape, inequality in the height of houses, or both. Thus, according to Mr. Green, Glasgow owes its very low cancer mortality (2.98 per cent of all deaths) to the fact that not only has it a flat site, but its roof line is phenomenally level. Mr. Green, however, is not a medical man, and, unfortunately, cannot think like one, else he would never see in the induction of scrotal epithelioma in chimney-sweeps by coal soot any support for his contention that the imperfect removal from
the atmosphere of the products of coal combustion is the cause *par excellence* of cancer. Further, no one with a medical outlook would have adduced Stepney, with its monotonously level roofs and a cancer mortality of 1·84 per cent, and the Strand district, with a chaotic irregularity in roof levels and a cancer mortality of 12·62 per cent, as a striking confirmation of this smoke theory. Stepney is the home of the working classes, composed largely of young people and their children. The Strand, on the other hand, is given over to business premises, where the only residents are caretakers, practically all of whom have passed the prime of life and are "without encumbrances." Since cancer is pre-eminently a disease of old age, at least of the period of retrogression, need we marvel that its mortality is abnormally high amid such a picked community?

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**Social Work in Hospitals: The Samaritan Fund.** A paper read before the Incorporated Association of Hospital Officers on 15th March, 1912. By SYDNEY PHILLIPS, B.A.

As the very important link which connects the general curative work of a hospital with the various organisations outside which are concerned with the poor, the Samaritan Fund must necessarily require the closest attention of those concerned, and the present paper does well in bringing the subject prominently before the general public and all who have to deal with hospital administrative work.

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**The Pollution of Swimming Baths.** By J. G. FORBES, M.D. London: J. & A. Churchill. 1912.

This pamphlet of fifteen pages is a reprint of a paper read by Dr. Forbes before the Medical Officers of Schools Association on 22nd February, 1912, along with the discussion which followed it.

The question of the pollution of public swimming baths is one which is well worthy of attention, and the almost invariable presence of *bacillus coli*, *streptococcus faecalis*, and staphylococci, while only to be expected, is rather distressing when we consider the ever-present danger of typhoid infection by such a channel. The best remedy appears to be the
employment of an electrolytic disinfecting fluid containing hypochlorite of magnesia. The discussion which followed the paper seems not to have been productive of anything of importance.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports. Edited by H. Morley Fletcher, M.D., and W. M'Adam Eccles, M.S., F.R.C.S. Vol. XLVII. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1912.

The present volume has a melancholy interest for its subscribers, for it opens with obituary notices of three of the most prominent members of the teaching staff of St. Bartholomew's Hospital—John Langton, Henry Power, and Samuel Gee—written by Messrs. D'Arcy Power, W. H. H. Jessop, and Dr. Norman Moore respectively. Admirable as an operating surgeon, Mr. Langton was even more distinguished as a teacher, at first of anatomy, and afterwards of surgery, and to him are due, besides lectures and articles on hernia, the later editions of Holden's Manual of Dissections. The literary activities of Henry Power covered a wider field, for besides his Illustrations of some of the Principal Diseases of the Eye, they include the sixth to ninth editions of Carpenter's Human Physiology, translations of Stricker's Manual of Human and Comparative Histology, and of Erb's Diseases of the Peripheral Nerves (in Ziemmsen's Cyclopaedia), the New Sydenham Society's Lexicon of Medical Terms (with Leonard Sedgwick), an Elements of Human Physiology, and many papers, chiefly on ophthalmic subjects. But it is the name of Samuel Gee that is most familiar to those beyond the circle of the hospital school. His work on Auscultation and Percussion is a classic, and will long remain so; and it is worthily succeeded by his Medical Lectures and Aphorisms. The somewhat dry lucidity and conciseness of his style was based, it appears, upon his close study of seventeenth century authors; but we are not surprised to find from his biographer that it characterised his spoken lectures as well as his written words, and that it corresponded to a preciseness of habits which made him once refuse "to shake hands with a co-examiner who arrived late." It is just this quality of preciseness which is too often wanting in the bedside observation of the student, and which helped to make of Dr. Gee one of the best clinical teachers of his day.

The other papers include an article by Mr. J. A. Nixon on No. 5.
“Abdominal Aneurysm in a Girl Aged Twenty,” with an interesting series of 179 collected cases; an “Examination of the Chief Causes of Disease at Sea in the Era of the Tudors and Stuarts,” by Mr. Alan Moore, which forms a fascinating excursion in the history of medicine, and illustrates the terrible effects of scurvy in these none so distant times; and an able “Analysis of a Series of Eighty-nine Cases of Intussusception,” by Mr. M’Adam Eccles and Mr. F. F. Laidlaw. A few briefer but yet interesting papers complete the general part of the volume, which concludes with the customary series of hospital statistics.

Philadelphia General Hospital Reports. Volume VIII. Edited by DAVID RIESMAN, M.D. Philadelphia: Dunlap Printing Co. 1911.

The large number of interesting studies of disease contained in the eighth issue of these Reports is evidence of the value of the clinical and pathological material at the disposal of the Philadelphia General Hospital, and of the scientific energy of its physicians and surgeons. It is impossible in a brief review to do more than select for notice a few of the more striking articles. Among these will be found a paper by Eshner on two cases of aneurysm of the thoracic aorta, treated by the Moore-Corradi method of wiring and passing a galvanic current through the wire. To the paper is added an analytical table of thirty-eight cases so treated. Beardsley also reports two cases treated by this method, and advocates its more frequent employment. Pott and Weisenburg give an account of a case of cerebral tumour, with convulsions, limited at first to the left arm, and followed by paralysis, and after some weeks by paralysis of the left leg, and Babinski’s sign. The lesion was found to be in the upper third of the praecentral convolution, extending almost to the longitudinal fissure. Its situation, therefore, was higher than that at which the arm centre was till recently located. The leg fibres were probably implicated, subcortically, by pressure, and until they were affected Babinski’s sign did not appear, a circumstance which explains the many instances of motor lesions in which the reflex has been absent. Spiller writes upon Friedreich’s ataxia, and reports two cases of the disease associated with atrophy of the peripheral segments of the limbs. One of the cases is completed by a detailed
account of the post-mortem findings, and the paper concludes with a good discussion of the pathology of the condition, and its relations to other familial affections. Under Weisenburg's name there stands a contribution to the subject of exophthalmos as a symptom of brain tumour. He states that it occurs in about 11 per cent of all cases (8 out of 75), that it is present only where there is great increase of intracranial pressure, and especially where there is interference with the flow of cerebro-spinal fluid, that it is due to pressure on the cavernous sinus, and that where it is unilateral the tumour will be found upon the same side. Kassner has an elaborate clinico-pathological study of primary carcinoma of the liver, with an account of nine cases. He believes that cirrhosis plays a prominent part in its etiology, and finds that it may originate either from the hepatic cells or from the biliary epithelium. Franklin Stahl contributes a case of osteitis deformans, with autopsy; and Deaver discusses with much detail the subject of hepatic drainage.

While these are the principal papers, the others are worthy of their company. It will be evident, even from these bald indications, that the volume is one which will well repay perusal.

Transactions of the American Surgical Association. Vol. XXIX. Edited by Archd. MacLaren, M.D. Philadelphia: W. T. Dorman. 1911.

This volume of Transactions contains the papers read before the Association at the meeting held on 19th June, 1911, and two following days.

In his presidential address, Dr. Richard H. Harte (Philadelphia) refers to the visit paid to Great Britain by the Society of Clinical Surgery, and mentions specially the cliniques of Mr. Rutherford Morison (Newcastle), Mr. Robert Jones (Liverpool), and Mr. Stiles (Edinburgh). He speaks of the visit to Great Britain as memorable, interesting, and instructive, and he looks forward to the time when the Association will hold occasional meetings in this country, and British surgeons will pay return visits to America.

He then goes on to the subject of his address—"Some Phases in the Treatment of Fractures of the Long Bones." "There is," he says, "lack of interest and a feeling that the subject of fractures is so old that it will almost take care of itself . . . and it is only too apparent that the rising
generation is lacking in much of the skill and resourcefulness which characterised the older surgeons in the diagnosis and treatment of these injuries.” He discusses very pertinently the use of x-rays, and then refers to the “open” treatment. In accordance with their attitude towards this treatment he classifies surgeons as ultra-conservatives, extremists, and conservatives, the last-named operating “on properly-selected cases.” From this group of surgeons we have the best results consistent with a low mortality. Dr. Harte concludes by advocating, and very rightly, the importance of more thorough instruction in the routine treatment of fractures in general, by men of large surgical experience. This will, by directing attention to the subject, enhance its importance.

As usual, the volume contains many papers of interest. Mr. Stiles has a long contribution on the subject of epispadias in the female. Papers on anaesthetics are supplied by Bevan, Moore, Gatch, and others. Halstead and Vaughan write on arteriovenous anastomosis in the treatment of gangrene of the extremities. W. J. Mayo and others contribute papers on abdominal surgery, and Cushing and Wyllys Andrews on brain surgery.

The volume is a tribute to the vitality of the Association.

Verhandlungen der Berliner Medizinischen Gesellschaft
aus dem Gesellschaftsjahre 1911. Herausgegeben von
dem Vorstande der Gesellschaft. Berlin: Druck von L.
Schumacher. 1912.

In the Transactions of the Berlin Medical Society for 1911
is to be found a wealth of material of varied interest. The
arrangement adopted, however, by which demonstrations of
cases and reports of discussions occupy the first place, while
the papers on which the discussions arose fill the latter half of
the book, is hardly the most fortunate; but apart from this,
the reader cannot fail to find profit in the variety of
subjects handled by men the most eminent in German
medicine. It were hopeless to attempt even an enumeration
of all the papers, but attention may be particularly directed
to those on the radium-therapy of gout and rheumatism
(His); on a case of leprosy with positive Wassermann reaction,
unsuccessfully treated with salvarsan (Isaac and Senator); on
the experimental inoculation of syphilis in rabbits (Uhlenhuth
and Mulzer); on the pathogeny and therapy of gall-stone disease (Mayer); on the theory and practice of tuberculin treatment (Wolff-Eisner); on the treatment of phthisis by the establishment of artificial pneumothorax (Klemperer); on the chemotherapy of malignant tumours in animals (Wassermann and Hausemann); on embryonic ganglioma of the sympathetic nervous system (Pick); on acute atony of the stomach (Schlesinger); and on scarification and decapsulation of the kidney (Zonder). It will be seen that for readers of German the latest issue of these Transactions contains almost an embarras de richesses.

The Practical Medicine Series. Volume I: General Medicine. Edited by FRANK BILLINGS, M.S., M.D., and J. H. SALISBURY, A.M., M.D. Chicago: The Year Book Publishers. 1912.

This series consists of ten volumes, which cover the entire field of medicine and surgery, but each volume is complete in itself, and is stated to contain the most recent information on the subject of which it treats. While primarily compiled for the general practitioner, the arrangement makes it suitable for those interested in special branches.

This, the first volume of this series, is not a text-book on general medicine, but will form a useful companion to such a book, collecting, as it does, from recent medical literature only what is new, be it with regard to etiology, symptomatology, or treatment, &c.

Recent advances in diseases of the heart and arteries receive lengthy notice (over 100 pages) with special reference to the newer methods of diagnosis of cardiac irregularity. The section on infectious diseases contains many interesting reviews of work done on the early diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Other sections treat of disease of the lungs, the blood, the ductless glands, and the kidneys, and of miscellaneous disorders. Syphilis is not dealt with in this volume.

References are abundant throughout, and show that a wide field has been drawn upon for the material, which is all recent.

We can cordially recommend the book as giving in condensed form much up to date information on subjects which are attracting considerable attention at the present time.