

punctured wound of the left thigh. When he was brought into the cabin, al the wounds were bleeding profusely, but he never lost consciousness.

Both the first and second officers assured me that when they removed the clothes from his abdomen, the wound in the epigastrium was lying open, and through it they saw the anterior edge of the liver rising and falling with the movements of respiration, and divided to the depth of half an inch. His wounds were dressed, and in ten days he was able to walk about the deck.

Amherst (Nova Scotia), Dec. 18th, 1861.

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## REVIEW DEPARTMENT.

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ART. V.—*The Principles and Practice of Obstetrics.* By GUNNING S. BEDFORD, A.M., M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children, and Clinical Obstetrics in the University of New York; author of "Clinical Lecture on the diseases of women and children." Illustrated by four coloured lithographic plates and ninety-nine wood engravings. New York: Samuel S. & S. Wood, 389 Broadway; Dawson and Son, Montreal; 8vo. pp. 731. 1861.

The volume to which we now direct the attention of the reader is in reality what it professes to be, a complete and systematic treatise on the Principles and Practice of Midwifery, written in a plain, unostentatious, but engaging style, and eminently qualified to instruct the student and practitioner in all the minutiae of duties which devolve upon the accoucheur in the lying-in chamber. It is in fact in this characteristic that it differs so much, nay so intrinsically, from other older but well recognised works on this subject, which are noted chiefly for some other predominant traits. Thus the excellent treatises of Burns, Smellie, and Merri-man, have become antiquated in consequence of the rapid strides which all the medical sciences have made since their time, although adopted as the text books in the days of our own pupilage. Hamilton's midwifery, from whose lips we have ourselves received most valued instruction, is but an epitome of midwifery, or at best an outline, and a meagre one at best, of his course of lectures in the University of Edinburgh. Churchill's work is indebted for its success to its statistics, and on this subject stands pre-eminent. Cazeaux's work is highly scientific, too much so to be appreciated by any but a teacher of this branch of medical science. Tyler Smith's work, as regards practical detail far excels it. But neither of these two standard works can compare with Ramsbotham's, which far excels them in practical detail. In fact there are few points of practice in which the latter work may not be consulted with advantage, while lastly Dewees's work has been long laid upon the shelf, except as a work of reference by the lecturer. Hence it will be apparent, that Dr. Bedford's volume comes seasonably in, and supplies a want, as regards minuteness of practical detail, in which the other volumes on this subject were deficient, excelling possibly, but certainly rivalling, that of Ramsbotham.