

PERSONAL.

Dr. L. Silver, a graduate of Edinburgh University, has recently returned from England and commenced practice in Halifax.

PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Laparotomy (a report of ten selected cases, with remarks). By John H. McIntyre, A. M., M. D., of St. Louis, Mo.

LaGrippe, origin, history and treatment. By V. W. Gayle, M. D., Kansas City, Mo.

Bulletin of the Harvard Medical School Association. Number I., Report of First Annual Meeting held in Boston, June 23rd, 1891.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

CORRECTION.—In Dr. Stewart's letter from Edinburgh which appeared in last issue, the words "medical swordsman" as applied to Professor Macewen should have read "mediaeval swordsman."

RADICAL CURE OF REDUCIBLE HERNIA IN THE FEMALE.—Lucas-Championniere (*Rev. de Chir.*, December, 1881) advocates the more frequent performance of operations for the cure of reducible hernia in women. Hernia is more painful, and the wearing of a truss causes more uneasiness in the female than in the male. Reducible hernia in every young and healthy female subject ought, it is stated, to be operated on without exception in order that the accidents of hernia may be prevented, and the patient be enabled to avoid the inconvenience of wearing a truss. The author has operated for radical cure of hernia in the female in thirty-nine cases without a single bad result. Of these herniæ eleven were umbilical, eleven crural, and the remain-

ing seventeen inguinal. The last mentioned form of hernia, it is stated, is always painful in the woman, and always connected more or less directly with the uterine appendages by means of the round ligament which forms part of the wall of the sac. The author removes this structure together with the sac, as such practice assures complete destruction of the serous membrane, and complete closure of the orifice in the abdominal wall. Crural hernia is more difficult to deal with, as it is necessary to carry the dissection of the sac beyond the cribriform fascia. The results of the operation in this form of hernia, when performed with care and patience, are usually very satisfactory.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

AMONG the numberless cases of blood poisoning through the skin, one lately recorded is worthy of noting on account of its evident simplicity and the ease of its prevention. In the case referred to the sufferer was a seamstress, and the mischief resulted from her using a dirty metal thimble marked with verdigris, a little of which appears to have entered a scratch on the thimble finger. Verdigris, it is true, is a mere metallic irritant, and not comparable in virulence to most living germs of disease. It is quite enough, notwithstanding, to excite local inflammation, which friction, contact with dyed cloth material, or the entrance of dirt in any form, would quickly convert into a dangerous and general disorder. Steel thimbles are much safer and cost very little. Another variety also in common use is enamelled within, and is, if possible, even freer from objection. Cuts or scratches on the hand should never be neglected by sewing women so long as dyes continue to be used in cloth manufacture.—*Maryland Med. Jour.*

IN spite of all news items to the contrary, the oldest inhabitant is never dead.—*Puck.*