

student who wishes a brief yet intelligent conception of ophthalmology before he has occasion to resort to the larger treatises.

F. T. T.

EPOCH-MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICINE, SURGERY, AND THE ALLIED SCIENCES, Collected by C. N. B. CAMAC, A.B., M.D. The W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London, 1909.

This book contains a series of reprints of those communications which first conveyed most important observations to the scientific world, together with biographical sketches of the observers, with portraits. It is dedicated to Lord Lister, apparently at the recommendation of Professor Osler according to the facsimile letter which forms the frontispiece. The papers which are printed are: "On the Antiseptic Principle of the Practice of Surgery," by Joseph Lister; "Circulation of the Blood," by William Harvey; "On Percussion of the Chest," being a translation of Auenbrugger's treatise by John Forbes, M.D.; "Auscultation and the Stethoscope," by R. T. H. Laennec; "Vaccination Against Small-pox," by Edward Jenner; "Anæsthesia," by W. T. G. Morton; "Puerperal Fever," by O. W. Holmes.

So far as we are aware this is the first occasion upon which the original accounts of the seven cardinal discoveries in medicine have been brought together, and the wonder is that the happy inspiration did not impel some one to do it sooner. There is nothing more important for the student than to go to original sources and this book affords him a ready method. The portraits add to the interest and the biographies are comprehensive and accurate. The book will be a refreshment to all who have much to do with the reading of modern books on medicine.

DISORDERS OF THE BLADDER with Technique of Cystoscopy, by FOLLEN CABOT, M.D., Illustrated. New York, E. B. Treat & Company, 1909.

A book which aims to teach the technique of cystoscopy to the general practitioner is likely to fail. Whilst we may admit that "the recent improvements and reduction in cost of the instruments have brought them within the reach of all," it does not follow that "all" should use them. The practice of cystoscopy is one of the most special in surgery and should only be exercised with great caution to make it safe for the patient or useful to the practitioner. There is, however, much other information in the book dealing with urinary conditions, all well arranged and presented.