

reference might have been made to the use of the chisel, out of respect to a large number of surgeons, especially the Germans. In the chapter on dislocations, the author could well have made room for a little modern material by leaving out the description for reducing dislocations by means of pulleys and the accompanying diagrams. It is rare, indeed, that the practitioner of to-day meets with a dislocation requiring the use of so much brute force as is recommended in these pages. A little further on we come to the reduction of Colles' fracture, which is dismissed in these words: "After reducing the fracture as thoroughly as possible." What practitioner or student could have any idea of the proper manipulations for the reduction of this fracture, as taught by such surgeons as Moore and Pilcher? It is only too well known that without a good knowledge of the difficulties met with in this fracture, and the way to overcome them, the results have been frequently lamentable failures. Again, what surgeon who is at all familiar with spinal surgery will be satisfied with the treatment of spina bifida? The success that has followed the ligature in these cases, using the precautions taught by Abbé and others, is somewhat dazzling, and surely merits a little attention in a standard work. Again, the reference to appendicitis is somewhat disappointing. When so much has been written on this subject of late years, it seems that any work of the present day should give the student a good insight into the various forms of this trouble and the means of relief. The chapter, an important one, on amputations is relegated to an appendix. So far as it goes, this part is made very plain; but there are many interesting points in connection with the subject that the student, if he wants to have a good mastery of it, must look for elsewhere, or draw too largely upon his common sense. There are numerous other practical points that might be referred to in a somewhat similar way throughout the work, did space permit; but sufficient has been noticed to give the reader an idea of what he will be required to fill in from other sources. It does seem a waste of time, however, for any author to give an incomplete description of any well-recognized operation; it is certainly a waste of time and money to the reader. The work of the specialist is not to be expected

in a manual, but we do think that on subjects which interest and belong to the general practitioner writers of manuals should write to the times and make their productions so clear and complete that they will be useful guides to plodding ones. The work, on the whole, is so well handled by the writer, and contains so much that it will compare favorably with many high-priced works, that we cannot help thinking that, so long as manuals are found useful, this one will be in demand.

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*A Clinical Text-book of Medical Diagnosis for Physicians and Students*, based on the most recent methods of examination. By O. Vierordt, M.D., Prof. of Med. at University of Heidelberg, formerly of Leipzig, and of Jena. Authorized translation of the second (latest) German edition, by F. H. Stuart, A.M., M.D., Brooklyn, N.Y. Cloth, \$4.00; sheep, \$5.00; pp. 700. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, 913 Walnut St., 1891; Toronto: J. A. Carveth & Co.

A review of a translation necessarily calls for treatment under the three heads of the work done by the publisher, by the translator, and by the author. Arranging them thus in the inverse order of their importance, the work done by the publisher can fairly be very highly spoken of. The type is of good size and plain, the paper and binding excellent, and the illustrations, 178 in number, particularly good, the colored microscopic fields being worthy of a special treatise upon microscopy. The translator's task is always a particularly difficult one, as the temptation to lapse into the idiom of the original is ever present, and tells seriously upon his style as a writer of his own language. This, and the other pitfalls of the translator, Dr. Stuart has fairly well avoided, though his mode of expressing himself is in some places open to criticism that is not hypercriticism. The author's work is particularly well done. This is the best text-book we have seen, regarding it both in the light of scientific classification, comprehensive arrangement, perspicuity, and suggestiveness of treatment of each subject, and, finally, modernness of method. The references to chemical and microscopical examination as a means of diagnosis in disorders of the blood and of the digestive, respiratory, and urinary systems are very acceptable, and the draw-