

A Practical Treatise on the Medical and Surgical Uses of Electricity, including Localized and General Faradization, Localized and Central Galvanization, Franklinization, Electrolysis, and Galvano Cautey. By GEO. M. BEARD, A.M., M.D., and A. D. ROCKWELL, A.M., M.D. Fourth edition, revised by Dr. ROCKWELL, with nearly 200 illustrations. New York: Wm. Wood & Co.

Dr. Rockwell, the surviving author of this joint production, which first saw the light in 1871, has done the profession a real service in now issuing a fourth edition of this the largest, and probably completest, hand-book on medical and surgical electricity extant. We do not mean that our knowledge of the subject in general, or its applicability in the diagnosis and treatment of disease, has made such enormous strides since the publication of the last edition, but the importance of advances made in one or two particulars seem to demand or justify renewed attention. We refer to the department of Franklinic Electricity, the chapter on which has been re-written, and to the success which Dr. Rockwell has obtained in the treatment by electricity of the fearfully fatal catastrophe of extra-uterine pregnancy.

Second Annual Report of the Provincial Board of Health of Ontario, being for the year 1883.

Every sanitary organization develops a marvellous faculty of turning out voluminous reports. Unfortunately, the quality of the work cannot always be predicated of its quantity. Where records are kept it follows, of course, that the volume of a report varies directly with the amount of work accomplished.

The Ontario Board of Health was established for the benefit of the simple folk of Ontario, and their efforts have been confined to the primary education of the people in sanitary matters. As was to have been expected, from the constitution of the Board, their treatment of the various and complicated questions brought to their notice has been characterized by plain, practical advice, and their suggestions have emanated from an appreciation of the requirements based upon solid common sense.

The Board can point with pride and gratification to this report as a record of honest and

gratuitous perseverance and industry. We can heartily recommend the report to the public, not only for perusal, but for deeper study, for the dry and tedious details are supplemented here by much interesting matter clothed in an attractive dress.

Pathology, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Diseases of the Rectum and Anus. By CHARLES B. KELSEY, M.D., Surgeon to St. Paul's Infirmary for Diseases of the Rectum, etc. New York: William Wood.

It was our pleasure to speak very favourably of a former edition of this work, which formed one of the *Library Series* for 1883. The changes and additions which appear in this edition, add somewhat to the value of the book, but are not sufficiently important to call for any extended comments on our part. Affections of the rectum and anus are exceedingly common; but, for various reasons, do not receive the attention they deserve, partly from diffidence of patients, and partly, we fear, from indifference of practitioners, who often attempt to treat such ailments as piles, etc., without making any thorough examination. No one can afford to ignore such complaints, though all may not care to operate extensively. To those who desire to procure any book on this subject we can confidently recommend Kelsey's. He does not show the ripe experience of Allingham, nor, perhaps, the elegant dictum of Van Buren; but, all things considered, this work is in our opinion second to none; in fact, we may go further and say it is the best suited for general practitioners among those now available.

Personal.

Dr. W. N. Robertson (Toronto, '84), sailed for England July 19th.

Dr. W. H. Carlton (Toronto, '83), is practising at Whitevale.

Dr. P. J. Strathy (Trinity, '82), has formed a partnership with Dr. Hillary, of Aurora.

Dr. Gray has been appointed superintendent of the Montreal General Hospital.

Dr. Sheard has been appointed a member of