

people were stunted, dark in complexion with very poor teeth. The former are a superior group, intellectually and morally as well as physically. During a prolonged pedestrian tour with our *confreres* in Brittany and Normandy, we were much struck with the difference in the physical types in favor of the latter. Normandy contains the blondest people of France, Brittany the darkest and most benighted. Even the cattle have marked differences which, with the contrasts in the human types, are attributed to the influences of physical environment. Progress and prosperity show their effects in superior physique. Normandy and good teeth; Brittany and bad teeth. Brittany is the most devout (superstitious). The native Breton peasants are the filthiest people in Europe.

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## Reviews.

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*The American Text-Book of Operative Dentistry.* In contributions by eminent American authorities. Edited by EDWARD C. KIRK, D.D.S., Professor of Clinical Dentistry, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Dentistry. In one very handsome octavo volume of 699 pages, with 751 engravings. Cloth, \$5.50; leather, \$6.50; *net.* Lea Bros. & Co., publishers, Philadelphia and New York.

Dental literature, dental practitioners and dental students have all made a notable acquisition in this work. From a literary point of view it will add to the reputation of the profession, to the practising dentist it will furnish the latest and best information in the operative part of his work, and it will aid the student in mastering the art and profession of dentistry in the first place by the emphasis laid on the scientific principles, and secondly by the full treatment given to the descriptive data.

Of all the medical sciences dentistry has perhaps received the highest specialization. To present it completely in its ripest modern development is beyond the power of any one mind, hence the wisdom and necessity of invoking the knowledge possessed by recognized authorities in the various departments. The editor, Dr. Kirk, is intimately acquainted with the personnel of the dental profession, and he has secured the willing services of Drs. R. R. Andrews, H. H. Burchard, C. S. Case, W. E. Christensen, D. M. Clapp, M. H. Cryer, E. T. Darby, C. L. Goddard, L. H. Guilford, Louis Jack, L. Ottofy, C. N. Peirce, J. D. Thomas, and A. H. Thompson, to whose admirable chapters he has added one from his own experience.

The work is essentially a new departure; old traditions have