

matically, and without privilege of jury, the fault has been intentionally committed, in the belief that a clear description of one justifiable plan of treatment is likely to be of more immediate benefit to an inexperienced practitioner than an extended discussion of the relative advantages and disadvantages of many methods; and because the book is mainly intended for the use of those who have already assimilated the more comprehensive but perhaps less definite information, which it is the province of the systematic textbooks to supply.

After having consulted this book on a number of important points in every day obstetrical practice we can heartily commend it to the busy practitioner who has no time to read large works which give him the choice of a great many methods of dealing with an emergency but does not tell him what is the best one to follow. This is the great claim which the book can lay to being termed practical for it tells the practitioner what is the best thing to do in each class of case. All this advice is sound and thoroughly up to date.

### NEWS ITEMS.

#### AN IMPROVED FOUNTAIN SYRINGE AND DOUCHE PAN.

We have received from Mr. Worsell of Clinton, Ontario what we consider the most valuable form of douche pan that has yet been invented. The douche pan though light and neat in appearance is strongly made and owing to its being provided with a rubber outlet tube which carries the used water into a pail at the side of or under the bed it is simply impossible with this pan to wet the bed, no matter how many gallons of water may be used. Another comfort connected with it is a little water proof cushion laced to the surface upon which lies the woman's weight. There is an outflow tube at each side of it so that there is no need of moving the patient to the other side of the bed, as the outflow tube can be adjusted to either side of it. Physicians who have once seen this pan would probably recommend it to the exclusion of all others. We understand that the price complete is three dollars and fifty cents including the fountain.

Dr. W. E. B. Davis, late of Birmingham, Ala., has removed to Rome, Ga., to join his forces with Dr. J. B. S. Holmes in the conduct of the largest and most completely equipped sanitarium in the South, devoted exclusively to the treatment of women. The temptation must have been a very strong one to induce Dr. Davis to abandon his large and lucrative practice in Birmingham, but we have no doubt that he will find in his new home, and in the new relations which he assumes, a more congenial field, where he can cultivate his peculiar fitness and taste for the practice of abdominal surgery to its fullest extent. Dr. Davis is easily and properly regarded as the foremost abdominal surgeon in

the mid-south, and is also one of the most popular and progressive physicians of his age. His ideal is a high one, and it would benefit the whole profession if it should follow Dr. Davis' standard and aim to reach its high pinnacle.

Messrs. William Wood & Company announce that the further publication of the Medical and Surgical Monographs will cease with the issue of the number for December, 1891, but the thirty-six numbers, comprising twelve volumes, can be purchased either in separate numbers, price \$1 each, or as bound books, containing three numbers each, as issued. A prospectus containing prices, description of binding, and terms of sale of the bound form of the work, will be sent upon application to the publishers.

Wood's Medical and Surgical Monographs are not supplied through the book trade on any terms. All orders should be sent direct to William Wood & Company, Medical Publishers, New York.

#### PILOCARPIN IN EDEMA OF THE GLOTTIS.

At a meeting of the French Society of Otology and Laryngology, Dr. Suarez de Mendoza reported a case in which he was called to see a young man who had been attacked by serious edema of the glottis. Tracheotomy had been proposed to relieve the suffocation, but Suarez de Mendoza, seeing a narrow slit was still visible during inspiration, suggested that pilocarpin should be tried. Three hypodermic injections were given at intervals of 20 minutes, the total amount of pilocarpin administered being 25 milligrammes. Marked relief followed the first injection, and 15 minutes after the third the patient was breathing easily and was entirely out of danger. In 8 days he was quite well.—*British Medical Journal*, May 16, 1891.

#### ANTI-BILIOUS PILL.

The following pill is recommended by Dr. B. Frank Humphreys (*Med. and Surg. Reporter*) as "superior to the compound cathartic pill and as an improvement on the little lapactic pill."

R Calomel,  
Podophyllin,  
Extract of belladonna   āā gr. 1-2.  
Aloin,  
Oleoresin of capsicum   āā gr. 1-8.  
Ipecacuanha           gr. 1-16.  
M. ft. pill. No. 1.

Dose: As an aperient, one pill at night or morning; as a laxative, one or two; as a cathartic and cholagogue, three or four—one every two hours until the desired number has been taken.