

two lessons, what a student ought to know of the tissues and organs is clearly and concisely taught. Disputed questions, and the views of different histologists on points not yet settled, are not discussed. The book is, we suppose, a companion volume to the author's well-known excellent work on "Practical Histology," and as such it is an admirable work, and will enable those who wish to pursue the study of histology further to do so to advantage. The illustrations (281 in number) are excellent, most of them being taken from Quain's Anatomy. They show just what the practised eye sees when examining sections through the microscope. As a special work on histology we anticipate for Professor Schafer's "Essentials" a success commensurate with its excellence. The matter in the volume is not new, and in nowise claims to be; but the succinct manner in which a sound foundation knowledge of tissues and organs (proceeding from the simplest to the higher and more complex) is taught, will readily enable the student to build higher thereon if he so desire, and to build to advantage.

*A System of Obstetric Medicine and Surgery, Theoretical and Clinical.*—By ROBT. BARNES, M.D., and FANCOURT BARNES, M.D. Illustrated with 231 woodcuts. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co. 1885.

The authors of this latest work on midwifery state, *in limine*, their very just appreciation of the difficulty of the task; but those of their readers who were familiar with "Obstetric Operations," "Clinical Studies of Diseases of Women," and the numerous admirable monographs on obstetric subjects which have flowed from the facile pen of the elder Barnes, will not be surprised to find that an adequate energy, sufficient diligence, consummate skill and experience, and a happy faculty of expression have been brought to bear upon the labor, and have accomplished the delivery of a giant among books. True to the traditions of Robert Barnes' past, a physiological idea and natural method pervade the present treatment of the subject, and, recognizing the inability of any but a master and teacher of physiology to properly present the section on "Embryology," the *principia obstetrica* have been entrusted to the able care of Prof. Milnes Marshall, the

enlistment of whose services for that special purpose the scientific world will unanimously applaud. Guided by a similar principle, the aid of Mr. Noble Smith, the well-known orthopædist, has been invoked for the section on "Teratology." The division of labor between the Barnes' may be thus stated:—"The history of gestation, of puerperity, of the mechanism of labor, and of hæmorrhage, is chiefly contributed by" the father; "whilst much of that which relates to the prophylaxis of puerperal diseases and the description of the operations, is contributed" by the son.

Of the father's labor it would be superfluous to speak in terms of commendation, for in the obstetric world to-day where is his equal to be found? Of the son's contribution to the present volume, we may truly say that, although of late years we have been developing an appreciation of his labors which we did not at first possess, we are in the present instance pleasantly disappointed at the high standard of excellence attained. Anything from the pen of Robert Barnes must necessarily bear the impress of his individuality—happily a fortunate one; but in addition to his personal views, we here find a discussion of most of the noteworthy teachings and experiences of other authorities, and the one fault we have to find in the work is the too great brevity of many sections—the natural result of an effort at compendious treatment. If the "system" had been extended to reasonable proportions, and designed to meet the wants of practitioners, as contra-distinguished from students of medicine, it would have admirably filled a great *lacuna* in the bookshelves of English readers, and supplied a much-felt want. Students can be safely left to Playfair and other admirable works of that class. Practitioners frequently feel the need of something more—that something we look to the Barnes' to produce in a second edition of their system. It cannot be denied, however, that the work before us is wholly excellent, apart from its condensation, and as a systematic treatise upon modern midwifery second to none.

Life-like expression to the eyes of dead bodies is restored by placing a few drops of glycerine and water on the cornea.