

Skin Affections in Childhood, Heart Disease, Anaesthesia, Diseases of the Male Generative Organs, Diseases of the Ear and Diseases of the Nose and Throat. The uniform price is five shillings net. Amongst other Oxford medical publications are Functional Nervous Disorders in Childhood, Operations of General Practice, Enlargement of the Prostate, Physical Diagnosis, and Cancer of the Womb. The same publishers are issuing Osler's System of Medicine, and they announce a system of Syphilis in five volumes edited by D'Arcy Power and J. Keogh Murphy.

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## Reviews and Notices of Books.

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OSLER'S MODERN MEDICINE.—Modern Medicine, Its Theory and Practice. In original contributions by American and Foreign authors. Edited by WILLIAM OSLER, M.D., assisted by THOMAS MCCRAE, M.D. In seven octavo volumes. Volume II. Infectious Diseases. 800 pages of text. Lea Brothers & Co. Philadelphia and New York.

The second volume of this work follows closely upon the appearance of the first volume which has already gone through the press a second time, so great has been the demand for it. There are twenty-nine chapters in volume II. comprising eight hundred pages of text with a good index of twenty-eight pages. In addition to the common eruptive fevers, diphtheria, whooping cough, mumps, influenza, lobar pneumonia, acute rheumatism, asiatic cholera, yellow fever, plague and bacillary dysentery are included. The study of infectious diseases is fittingly introduced by Ludwig Hektoen in the first chapter. Here one may find a comprehensive presentation of the important subject of infection, with due consideration given to infective agents, routes of infection, dissemination in the body, elimination, associated infections and results of microbic activity, etc., etc. In the discussion of Immunity Dr. Hektoen goes carefully into the development and action of antitoxins, lysins, opsonins, precipitins and agglutinins contrasting the former with the present theories and giving an important place in the explanation of immunity to chemical and electrical activity. The writer says in summing up a description of certain experiments that they "show that toxic and antitoxic action may take place without the immediate co-operation of the living organism and that the combination toxin-antitoxin follows chemical laws." Again, to quote him,—“Pfeiffer first believed that his antibodies could be activated only by something in