

*The Science and Art of Midwifery.* By WILLIAM THOMPSON LUSK, A.M., M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, Consulting Physician to the Maternity Hospital, etc., etc., with numerous illustrations. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

Of late years many excellent treatises upon obstetrics have been published, and, we may add, many that are not excellent. This work takes rank with the best, and is by far the most complete exposition of the science and art of midwifery yet written. The general arrangement is different from that usually followed, and gives an entirely original character to the work. Nothing has been omitted which can be of use to the obstetrician, as the author is thoroughly practical in his instruction, supplementing his own extensive observations with those of other modern authors, and more especially from the labors of German investigators. The first half of the work is chiefly devoted to the anatomy and histology of the subject, and here the author does not show himself so free in his observations as he does in the second part. In this latter we see the hand of one who is master of his work. In a few instances corrections are required: thus in the introduction of the blades of the forceps he directs the handle of the left blade to be held in the right hand while the left hand serves as a guide. With the patient in the dorsal position this would be found to be a very awkward procedure. Such errors have no doubt been overlooked in the revision of the text, and do not affect its value.

The practitioner will find this work to be a source of scientific and practical information, from which he may gather many new ideas of great value in practice, and the student may rely upon it as a text-book containing all that is essential to acquire a thorough knowledge of the obstetric art.

*The Diseases of the Rectum, including Fistula, Hemorrhoids, Painful Ulcer, Stricture, Prolapsus, etc., with Diagnosis and Treatment.* By WILLIAM ALLINGHAM, M.D., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to St. Mark's Hospital for Fistula, &c.

Fourth edition, illustrated, paper cover. Price 75 cents. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston & Son, 1882.

Competition among publishers has resulted in giving the reading public literature in a very cheap form—works which a few years ago sold at 75 cents now being obtainable at 20 or 25 cents. It would seem as if, to a certain degree, this was going to be the case with medical works, and due to the same cause. Some three years ago a house engaged in Medical publications began issuing monthly volumes at the rate of one dollar each—then a better class of works were issued at a slight advance. This year P. Blakiston & Son have entered as competitors, and are issuing very good works at \$1.25 a volume, and, with cloth covers, at 75 cents. If this volume is a good sample of what the series will consist we have no hesitation in saying that it is deserving of encouragement. Dr. Allingham's book may be styled practical, indeed such a work as the busiest man can scarcely glance at without gathering information.

*The Treatment of Diseases by the Hypodermatic Method.* By ROBERTS BARTHOLOW, M.A., M.D., LL.D. Fourth Edition, revised and enlarged. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1882.

Dr. Bartholow's reputation as an accomplished physician and careful writer is sufficient guarantee for the excellence of any work from his pen. The fourth edition of this book has been brought well up to date, having been revised, enlarged and in many parts rewritten. Among others, the actions and uses subcutaneously of the following drugs are fully considered:—The Opium Alkaloids, Atropia, Duboisia, Hyoscyamia, Strychnia, Conia, Curara, Nicotia, Hydrocyanic Acid, Physostigma, Pilocarpine, Amyl Nitrite, Chloroform, Ether and Alcohol, Chloral, Caffein, Apomorphia, Ergotin, Quinia, Carbolic Acid, Mercury and Arsenic. Chapters are added upon Aquapuncture, Irritant Injections, Injection of Ammonia into the Veins, and an important chapter upon the Opium or Morphia Habit and its Treatment. Dr. Bartholow suggests the use of the word *hypodermatic* as being more correct than *hypodermic*.