

"Perhaps it should be added, that the greater frequency of uterine diseases is more apparent than real. Formerly these complaints passed under other names."

In describing the pathology our author says an irritable uterus is that state of the nerves of the organ, in which they are preternaturally susceptible to impressions. There may be and often is no perceptible disturbance of organic life. It is merely a disease of animal life.

If however a severe or continued irritant disturbs this irritability, the irritation may be followed by pain, spasm, or by various distressing nervous sensations, which may radiate to distant parts. In other cases, it is succeeded by congestion or engorgement. This is not inflammatory congestion, but that modification of congestion resulting from nervous excitement as in menstruation, erections &c. * * * there is no permanent alteration of structure, and the recovery is often perfect and sudden. The treatment is entered upon with chapter, ix. and is fully described. Rest with tonics, especially the preparations of iron, are strongly recommended, as are daily injections of cold water into the vagina, and at times the rectum. We think a word of caution should have been given with regard to the use of cold injections; for we have seen cases of the most intense uterine colic produced by some of the fluid entering the cavity of the uterus. Care should be taken to direct the current well back. The remainder of the volume is devoted to the consideration of uterine displacements, and Dr. Hodge attributes many anomalous symptoms, which frequently occur to this cause. The illustrations are fairly done, and the work contains considerable valuable information, although we must confess we notice numerous repetitions.

Essentials of the Principles and Practice of Medicine, a hand-book for Students and Practitioners. By HENRY HARTSHORNE, M.D.
Second edition revised and improved. Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea,
1869. Montreal, Dawson Brothers.

This is a very handy little volume, and one worthy of a place in the library of every physician. It contains, in a condensed form, the symptoms, causation, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of the majority of medical and surgical diseases to which the human subject is heir. The arrangement is perfect. A careful examination of its contents assures us that its author is thoroughly conversant with the medical literature of the day. In the treatment, especially, we notice that mention is made of every case where new remedies have been suggested, and their value, so far as ascertained, noted. An occasional glance at this work would do much to refresh the memory of those whose time is so completely occupied as to preclude the possibility of systematic treatises being examined.