

forms the very best text-book which the student can read upon this important science.

*Milk Analysis and Infant Feeding.* By ARTHUR V. MEIGS, Physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital, and to the Children's Hospital, etc. Philadelphia: P. Blackiston, Son & Co.

When we consider the generally acknowledged fact that large numbers of infants among the rich and poor die from improper feeding, we are led to wonder at the comparative indifference which prevails on this subject. Bad feeding kills more babies than any plague the world has ever seen. This old story may be told again and again, but few apparently fully appreciate it. A routine treatment with one, two, or three substitutes for mother's milk will not suffice. We should study every case, give our instructions carefully in writing, watch patiently the effects of food given, and vary the proportions or varieties till we find something which is both retained and assimilated.

We can cordially recommend Dr. Meigs' little work to all interested in this subject, and no others should ever prescribe for children. We consider it one of the most interesting and valuable books of the kind that has ever been printed.

*Epilepsy, and other Chronic Convulsive Diseases.* By W. R. GOWERS, M.D. New York: Wm. Wood & Co.

This volume is one of *Wood's Library Series* for the year '85. As might be inferred from the author's wide reputation as a hard-working investigator, this book is quite original, and presents the results of the careful analysis of 1,450 cases, most of them patients in the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic. Many of the conclusions given are the same as those of previous writers; others, again, are different. Some curious facts are shown in the etiology of epilepsy. The greater proportion of cases are females: 114 females to 100 males.

"There are few diseases in the production of which inheritance has greater influence." The side from which the disease is inherited has a distinct influence on the occurrence of the affection in the two sexes. When from the father's side, the sons are more likely to be affected;

and when from the mother's side, the daughters are more liable to the attack. He gives mental emotion, fright, anxiety, excitement, as the most potent exciting causes. Next to these, traumatic influences are the greatest in numerical importance.

The book is written in a very easy style for reading, and will well repay perusal.

*The Science and Art of Midwifery.* By WILLIAM THOMPSON LUSK, A.M., M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children, Bellevue Hospital Medical College, etc. Second edition. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

In our February issue, 1882, will be found a comparatively full review of the first edition of this work, in which it was our pleasure to speak of it in the highest terms. We must congratulate Dr. Lusk upon the marvellous success of his book, both in the old and new worlds. This new edition appearing so soon after the first presents a number of changes and additions, and is abreast of the times in every particular. It is thoroughly scientific, while at the same time eminently practical. The author has a happy faculty of incorporating the views of others on all questions with his own, fairly and clearly, doing full justice to others, and still maintaining his own identity. We feel certain this book will retain its position among the three best works on midwifery now available in the English language, *i.e.*, Barnes', Playfair's, and Lusk's. It is somewhat perplexing to publish almost simultaneously notices on three such valuable works; but fortunately each has excellences peculiar to itself, and a combination of the three will furnish a rare fund of scientific and practical information in this department.

*The Essentials of Histology. Descriptive and Practical. For the Use of Students.* By E. SCHAFER, F.R.S. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers, & Co., 1885. Pp. 245.

"The Essentials of Histology" is a very appropriate title for this book. At first sight, even though the author's name is to a certain extent a guarantee of excellence, we were almost disposed to think that a new book on histology was not greatly needed, but must confess that we are agreeably disappointed. In the forty-