

author does not attempt to deal in detail with the technique of various operative procedures, but his object in writing a book is to consider the various surgical conditions of the abdomen as subjects for study from the standpoint of pathology and diagnosis. The principles of treatment are suggested, and the post-operative methods of dealing with the case carefully described.

Without any detailed analysis of the work done, one may say that it is an admirable guide to the surgery of the diseases of the abdomen, and is obviously compiled by an author who has utilized to the full his powers of accurate observation and skill in treatment.

A. P.

Constipation and Intestinal Obstruction. By SAMUEL G. GANT, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Diseases of the Rectum and Anus in the New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital. Octavo of 559 pages, with 250 original illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1909. Cloth, \$6.00 net; half morocco, \$7.50 net. Canadian agents, J. A. Carveth & Co., Limited, Toronto.

The author in this book emphasizes the drugless management of constipation and obstipation (intestinal obstruction), something in connection with which he claims to have met with considerable success. He feels, and properly so, that sufficient attention has not been paid in the treatment of this condition to bodily movements, massage, mechanical vibration and electricity. Dr. Gant also points out the indications for the employment of non-medicinal measures to be used in the treatment of constipation, describing the technic of their application. His book throws a great deal of light upon a subject that has been touched upon too little by medical authors, and deserves a nice reception.

Primary Studies for Nurses. A Text-book for First Year Pupils Nurses. By CHARLOTTE A. AIKENS, formerly Superintendent of Columbia Hospital, Pittsburg, and of the Iowa Methodist Hospital, Des Moines. 12mo of 435 pages, illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1909. Cloth, \$1.75 net. Canadian agents: J. A. Carveth & Co., Limited, Toronto.

In her "Primary Studies for Nurses" Miss Aikens has published a book that will undoubtedly find a place on the book-shelf of many nurses starting their course in study. There are a number of books which have been published during the past few years for the use of nurses; but Miss Aikens' book seems to us to fill a want that is not supplied by other books on a similar subject. The book is divided into seven sections under the following headings: