

chanical appliances of a like nature, including some of the later inventions, are described and illustrated by wood-cuts, but the author has carefully avoided cumbering his pages with accounts of improved and unpractical methods and apparatuses. The author is a moderate believer in the plaster-of-Paris dressing, and devotes some space to the explanation of the preparation and application of its various forms. On the subject of antiseptic dressings he has very little to say, and limits himself to detailing the rules for their employment. The book is profusely illustrated, and contains a quantity of valuable statistics, which, like the illustrations, are in the main taken from Gurlt's work. Its principal shortcoming is the smallness of the space devoted to differential diagnosis

**THE INTERNATIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SURGERY.** A Systematic Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Surgery, by authors of various nations. Edited by John Ashhurst, Jr., M.D., Prof. Clinical Surgery, University of Pennsylvania. Vol. III., 1883. New York: Wm. Wood & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

This elaborate work, which will be completed in six volumes, has reached three volumes, the first and second of which have been favorably noticed in our pages. Our admiration for the work increases as it progresses. It is one of which its authors may well be proud. The present volume contains about 700 pages, and is presented in a most attractive form by the publishers. We are informed that this great international work is being translated and published in France and Italy. The volume before us treats in a masterly way, injuries and diseases of the various tissues, muscles, tendons, fasciæ, lymphatics, bloodvessels, vascular system, aneurisms, nerves and joints. Several chromo-lithographs embellish this volume. The complete work will form a valuable contribution to modern surgery. The editor, in conclusion, laments the death of one of his most distinguished collaborators, the late Prof. W. H. VanBuren, of New York.

**INSANITY; ITS CAUSES AND PREVENTION.** By H. P. Stearns, M.D., Superintendent of the Retreat for the Insane, Hartford, Conn. New York: G. P. Putnam & Sons.

This is a most valuable book. The author tells us in his preface, "it has not been written for spe-

cialists exclusively, though it is hoped it will not prove wholly uninteresting to them, but rather for those in the general practice of medicine, educators, and the more intelligent lay members of society."

It is beyond all question that to the last two classes its careful perusal would be unspeakably valuable, but especially the three chapters treating of education in its three important forms, of scholastic, industrial, and moral. The whole of these is so good and forcible that to attempt quotations would be nothing short of mutilation, and as the book is not a large one—only 248 pages of short octavo—and on excellent paper with very plain type, we would hope that it will find a place on every drawing room table. Parents, teachers and all persons interested in the future well-being of youth could not fail to derive instruction from its wise admonitions; nor could it be less profitable to the young, who would find in it much good advice on the important subjects of marriage, alcohol, tobacco, insufficient sleep, overwork of brain, religion, poverty, rest and recreation, etc., all written in very plain, clear language. In truth the book would be a household treasure.

**ON THE DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE.** Issued by the Provincial Board of Health. Toronto: Printed by C. Blackett Robinson.

This is No. 11 of the series of *brochures* issued by the Provincial Board of Health, and is, it may safely be said, the only document of any practical value published by that body since its inauguration. It is merely what its name implies, a brief *resumé* of the various methods of disposing of sewage, chiefly adapted from such works as those of Parkes, Wilson, Bayles, Waring and Latham, and is illustrated by several wood-cuts. The style is as simple as possible and entirely free from technical terms, so as to be comprehensible even to the most uninitiated. The pamphlet is a decided improvement upon its predecessors, and the appearance of a few more such would go far towards establishing the Board's reputation for doing something of value in the interest of public sanitation.

**DIAGNOSIS OF OVARIAN CYSTS BY MEANS OF THE EXAMINATION OF THEIR CONTENTS.** By H. J. Garrigues, A.M., M.D. New York: William Wood & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

This is a reprint in book form of the excellent papers on the above subject which appeared some time ago in the *Obstetrical Journal*.