

at law, involving possible heavy damages, have been entered, owing to serious injury from too lengthy exposure to the X-rays. We think that we will be advising in the right direction when we say that, if only for the information contained in this one chapter, it will be found worth while to purchase both volumes. Under the section given over to "Laws Relating to the Insane," the author deals separately with the statutes of all the States and Territories and the District of Columbia as to the commitment, care and custody of the insane. The statutes, of New York are given in full, it being the only State in the Union to adopt a uniform system of State care for its dependent insane, and to assume the entire financial cost thereof.

The author devotes ten pages or so to considering "Dust from Grounded Glass and other Mechanical Irritants," a subject which becomes important owing to glass having been figured in more than one case of comparatively recent date.

Victor C. Vaughan's contribution of fourteen pages on "The Post-Mortem Imbibition of Poisons" is interesting and instructive.

Those who have in their library a copy of Peterson & Haines' "Text-Book of Legal Medicine," possess a work that gives them the most recent views on medical jurisprudence in all its phases, and need not be afraid to quote the source of their information.

W. A. Y.

*Essentials of Pelvic Diagnosis, with Illustrative Cases.* By E. STANMORE BISHOP, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Author of "Uterine Fibromyomata, Their Pathology, Diagnosis and Treatment;" Hon. Surgeon, Ancoats Hospital, Manchester; Vice-President, British Gynecological Society, London; ex-President Clinical Society, Manchester, etc.; and an Appendix on Examination of Blood, etc., by Chas. H. Melland M.D. (Lond.), M.R.C.P., Hon. Physician, Ancoats Hospital, Manchester; Platt Physiological Scholar, etc. New York: Wm. Wood & Co. 1903. Canadian agents: Chandler & Massey Limited, Toronto, Montreal and Winnipeg.

Can diagnosis be learned from a book? As a general thing, No, and yet this book being planned practically upon a new system would lead us to think—and I have no doubt correctly, too—that it is possible to learn the diagnosis of many, if not all, abdominal conditions if we follow the instructions herein contained. Diagnosis is supposed to be taught by most writers on the inductive principle. They start out with a description of a known disease, giving all the symptoms in detail. The symptoms in many diseases, however, differ but slightly, and the writer goes on to show how in his mind these do differ, but our mind is perhaps not his mind. He thoroughly understands the subject about which