

PREFACE.

IN writing this volume consideration has been given to the needs both of the scientific student and of the active practitioner.

Particular attention is directed to the anatomic changes in pregnancy, labor, and the puerperium, the description being largely based upon studies of frozen sections published in recent years by the author and other workers. Great prominence, also, is given to embryologic, physiologic, and pathologic data which are of importance in relation to obstetrics. Several of these have been investigated in special researches by the author.

The practical aspects of the subject are presented in such a manner as to be of direct assistance to the clinical worker. Emphasis is given to methods of treatment that have been tested by experience.

Great care has been given to the preparation of illustrations, many of which have never appeared in a text-book of obstetrics. In their selection the publishers have exercised marked generosity. Special acknowledgement is due to Dr. Robert L. Dickinson for the admirable series of illustrations taken from the *American Text-Book of Obstetrics*, the drawings for which were originally made for that work under Dr. Dickinson's supervision. To my associates, Drs. Holmes and Pierce, my thanks are due for suggestions and assistance in the reading of proofs; to Dr. C. Wahrer I am indebted for a number of drawings from which illustrations have been made.

J. CLARENCE WEBSTER.

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