

Books and Pamphlets.

THE YEAR-BOOK OF TREATMENT FOR 1886. Philadelphia: Lea Bros. & Co. \$1.

This work consists of a critical review for practitioners of medicine and surgery, by eminent authors at home and abroad. Each department has been fully and concisely treated, and care has been taken to include only such clinical and pathological work as bears directly upon treatment. A full reference is given to every article noticed.

A COMPEND OF ELECTRICITY AND ITS MEDICAL AND SURGICAL USES. By Charles J. Mason, M.D., Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army. Philadelphia: Blakiston, Son & Co. 1887.

This little work presents a selection and classification of such facts and principles as will give a clear and short, but sufficiently comprehensive view of this now important branch of therapeutics. Certainly the average physician does not use this agent as often as the success attending its application would warrant, and we can heartily recommend the book to such practitioners as have not time to peruse more exhaustive treatises. To the student it will be of great value, as the definitions used are clearly put, a great desideratum for those whose time for the study of this branch is limited.

DRUG ERUPTIONS. A Clinical Study of the Irritant Effects of Drugs upon the Skin. By Prince A. Morrow, A.M., M.D., Clinical Professor of Venereal Diseases, Bellevue Hospital Medical College. New York: W. Wood & Co. \$1.75.

It is an axiom, that the prescriber should know all the effects that may be produced by any drug he orders, even the remote and unusual effects. While this is true, we doubt if most physicians have given much attention to such abnormal manifestations as the eruptions produced by the various agents used in the cure of disease. This subject of drug eruptions is of special interest, as they sometimes simulate very closely the exanthemata and other affections of the skin. Considerable attention has been devoted to this subject of late, and the work in hand seems to be an epitome of the views of observers in all countries. The amount of patience exercised by the author in selecting from the numerous sources of information, is wonderful. To this he has added the results of his personal observations, and has made a most useful and readable book. He omits the action of the less frequently used drugs, and confines himself in

the main to those which, from their every-day utility, are of practical importance to the ordinary physician in his daily work. We heartily recommend the work to all those desiring the latest information on this subject.

A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON OBSTETRICS. Vols. I., II. and III. (4 vols.). By A. Charpentier, M.D., Paris. Illustrated with lithographic plates and wood engravings. These are also Vols. I., II. and III. of the "*Clyclopedia of Obstetrics and Gynecology*" (12 vols.), issued monthly during 1887. New York: W. Wood & Co.

" Sometimes swiftly, sometimes slow,
Wave succeeding wave they go
A various journey to the deep,
Like human life to endless sleep!"

How many treatises on obstetrics have floated down the stream of time within the last half century? How many students of the present day know, even by name, such writers as Burns, Gooch, Badeloque, Dewees, Meigs, Ramsbotham, Rigby, Magnier, or Churchill? And yet these men were great in their generation, and did good work. But, "wave succeeding wave," they have gone, if not to "endless sleep," certainly to undisturbed repose. It is a sad fact, too, that as the stream progresses, the current becomes swifter, and its floatage more voluminous. Old age used to creep slowly over books; they now wilt and wither almost before reaching adolescence. Of all the assets a departing or an insolvent physician can bequeath to his heirs, or assign to his creditors, the very worst, even worse than his old clothes, are his old books—that is to say, all over two years old.

Messrs. Wood & Co. have launched upon the impetuous stream, in English form, a work of formidable dimensions, the production of the eminent Frenchman, Dr. A. Charpentier. We gratefully acknowledge receipt of the first three volumes, from a cursory perusal of which we have been led to hope that the enterprising publishers will have no reason to regret their spirited adventure. We cannot, however, refrain from suggesting to the Messrs. Wood, in the way of friendly advice, that they should in future look more closely after the execution of their plates, especially the reference letterings. An able anatomist may not be inconvenienced by this sort of defects, but they must prove formidable stumbling blocks to junior students.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

On 15th April, at Toronto, John Fulton, M.D.,
Editor CANADA LANCET, aged 50 years.