

THE ROCKING CHAIR.—An English surgeon says that people who use rocking chairs most, get deaf soonest. Rocking also hurts the eyes and makes people near-sighted, *Med. Compend.*

Rocking chairs are also a very common cause or one of the factors in producing pelvic diseases. The contraction, pressure and relaxation produced by several hours' constant rocking produces a hyperæmic condition of the pelvic organs. At first the vaso-motors soon exert themselves and the vessels return to their normal condition, but when this is kept up for years the vaso-motor control becomes less and less till congestion takes place, and the long list of pelvic symptoms follows. A straight chair and hot water injections have cured a large number of gynæcological cases in our hands.

WANT NO PHYSIOLOGY.—The Christian Scientists of Burlington, *Times and Reg.*, Iowa, have petitioned the school board to excuse their children from attendance when physiology is taught. The petition declares that there is no material body, and objects to having their children taught to believe there is anything so much in evidence as a stomach or a liver. It objects also to geography, on the score that it recognizes a material body. The petition was refused, as the school board was too painfully conscious of its own stomach, liver, and other of the fabulous imaginary organs of the myth and delusion called the human body, to be able to coincide with the views of the petitioners.

RECEIVED sample of Bromidia some time ago. Since receiving same we have given it a fair test with the result that we keep it constantly on hand as a reliable sedative in all cases of insomnia and delirium arising from the abuse of alcohol or other stimulants. THE KEELEY INSTITUTE, Marysville, O., Jan. 20th, 1892.

WE are indebted to Dr. N. A. Powell, of this city, for the poem by the late Dr. Holmes, which appears in another column, as well as for his very interesting obituary notice. The poem appears in only one, and that a very rare edition, of Dr. Holmes' works.

NOT HEALTHY.—Mr. Hugging: What do you think of the latest medical dictum that kissing is unhealthy? Mr. Hunker: It is quite true. Mr.

Munn happened to catch me kissing his daughter, and I was laid up a whole week.—*N. Y. Sun.*

ON the ground of a statistical study, Mr. Barling (*Brit. Med. Jour.*) states that the supra-pubic operation is by all odds the most dangerous.

AT the Antwerp World's Fair Exposition, Wm. R. Warner & Co., were awarded the Grand Prize for the purity and excellency of their preparations.

INCONTINENCE OF URINE.—Dr. White, *La Revue Médicale*, recommends the following formula in incontinence of urine in children:

R—Benzoate soda,	} āā . (grs. xv.)	1.0
Salicylate soda,		
Ext. belladonna,	. . . (grs. xxx.)	2.0
Cinnamon water,	. . . (℥ iv.)	120.0

A teaspoonful four or five times a day.

Books and Pamphlets.

OPERATIVE SURGERY. By T. L. Kocher, M.D., Professor at the University, and Director at the Surgical Clinic at the Berne University; with 163 illustrations. New York: William Wood & Co. 1894.

The object of this work is very well outlined by the author in the following paragraph selected from the introduction: "The most important task of a surgical text book applicable to the living subject, appears to be that the reader be enabled to post himself rapidly and surely regarding the path the knife has to follow in incisions in any part of the body, and to any depth desired."

This object has been consistently kept in view throughout the book, and the result is a work of undoubted value to the busy practitioner. Without discussing indications for operation, the author has pointed out the preferable lines for incision, and the dangers to be avoided. The many excellent wood-cuts are a decided aid to the student. His articles on anæsthesia, the treatment of wounds, and the selection of the direction of incisions, embody the results of prolonged and careful observation, and ripe experience. The anatomical nomenclature differs in some instances from that to which we have been accustomed. This is, however, a very trifling detail, and the reader soon learns to admire and appreciate the remarkable clearness with which the whole subject is presented.