

*A Treatise on the Science and Practice of Midwifery.* By W. S. PLAYFAIR, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P., Emeritus Professor of Obstetric Medicine, King's College; Consulting Physician for the Diseases of Women and Children to King's College Hospital; Late President of the Obstetrical Society of London, etc. Seventh Edition from the Ninth English Edition. With seven plates and 207 illustrations. Lea Brothers & Co., Philadelphia and New York, 1898. A. P. Watts & Co., 10 College Street, Toronto.

There is probably no text-book on Midwifery that is so well and favorably known in Canada as that of Playfair. The first edition, published in 1876, pleased everybody who read it. It soon became the popular book on Obstetrics in England, Canada and the United States. Nine English editions in twenty-two years tells briefly how the work captured the John Bull doctor. We are not prepared to say that this edition is perfect, or relatively quite as good as that of twenty or twenty-two years ago when we compare the first, second and third editions with their respective contemporaries; but we do assert with confidence that it is a good book for both student and practitioner. Playfair's style of writing is charming—simple, plain, and attractive; his judgment is good; his ideas are eminently practical; his opinions on any vexed question are clear and well expressed. The changes which are found in this edition show very clearly that there has been an absolute revision, and this revision has made the book more valuable in all respects than the books which were issued some years ago.

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*A Treatise on "Unripe" Cataract.* By WILLIAM K. McKEOWN, M.D., M.Ch., Surgeon to the Ulster Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, Belfast; member of the Senate of the Royal University of Ireland; Lecturer, etc., etc., Queen's College, Belfast. Illustrated with nine plates and sixty original drawings. 202 pages, 8vo. Price, 12s. 6d. net. London: H. K. Lewis, 136 Gower Street, W.C.

This monograph of Dr. McKeown is marked by great candor and clearness of statement and detail. It is easily to be seen that this treatise is the result of dissatisfaction with the present condition of our knowledge regarding unripe cataract and the treatment thereof. Then comes his endeavors to put our procedure on a surer and more scientific footing. In all this time of fourteen years or more he finally gives us this monograph. Thus we are made aware that it is the outcome of mature deliberation and in nowise hastened by a fear of not being first in the field. The full explanation regarding all