

peritonitis is the paralysis of the intestines, whereby they may be bound down by adhesions, and gas may accumulate in them to such a degree as to actually prevent the diastole of the heart, and diaphragmatic respiration. The great advantage of the saline purge is that by osmosis, a large amount of culture fluid is drawn off from the peritoneal cavity, and septic germs are, therefore, left to starve instead of thriving, and the bowels never being left quiet for a sufficient time to allow the effused lymph to coagulate and bind them down. Since the saline treatment has been generally adopted, obstruction of the bowels from adhesions after ovariectomy is almost unknown. On his return from England, a year ago, Dr. Gardner stated at the Medical Society of Montreal, that in Mr. Tait's private hospital the nurses were held responsible if they allowed any symptoms of peritonitis to become manifest, their appearance being considered tantamount to a neglect of their duty to keep the bowels always on the move.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

THE MODERN TREATMENT OF DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS. By Prof Dujardin-Beaumetz. Translated from the fifth French edition. By E. P. Hurd, M.D. 1888. George S. Davis, Detroit, Mich. Pp. 169. Price, 25 cents.

This is a very valuable little book, and deserves a high place among the numbers of the Physicians' Leisure Library. The anatomy of the kidney is given from a therapeutic standpoint, the subject of urinary secretion is impartially discussed, and enough urinary analysis is given to make the subject clear. The translator has done his work well, and has presented to the medical public an exceedingly valuable work on this subject.

THE MODERN TREATMENT OF ECZEMA. By Henry G. Piffard, A. M., M.D., Clinical Professor of Dermatology, University of the City of New York; Surgeon to St. Elizabeth's Hospital; Consulting Surgeon to Charity Hospital, &c., &c. George S. Davis, Detroit, Mich.

In the pages of this little book the author has

briefly pointed out the chief clinical varieties of eczema, and has sought to exhibit their etiology, so far as he understands it. He has also indicated the principal remedies found useful in the treatment of this disease, and has detailed at some length the best manner of applying them. As eczema forms such a very large proportion of all known skin diseases, the perusal of this little work cannot but prove of great practical benefit, and we recommend it to our readers.

ANNOUNCEMENT.—E. B. Treat, Publisher, 771 Broadway, New York, will publish, early in 1889, the Seventh Annual Issue of the English "Medical Annual," a resumé in dictionary form of New Remedies and New Treatment that have come to the knowledge of the medical profession throughout the world during 1888. The editorial staff of the forthcoming volume, will include articles or departments edited by Sir Morrell Mackenzie, M.D., (Laryngology), London, Jonathan Hutchinson, Jr., M.D., (Genito-Urinary Diseases), London, J. W. Taglor, M.D., (Gynecology), Birmingham, William Lang, M.D., (Ophthalmologist), of London, James R. Leaming, M.D., (Heart and Lung), New York, Charles L. Dana, M.D., (Neurologist), New York, H. D. Chapin, M.D., (Pediatrics), of New York, and others, comprising a list of twenty-three collaborators, widely known in Europe and America. In its enlarged and widened sphere it will take the name of "The International Medical Annual," and will be published in one octavo volume of about 600 pages at \$2.75, under copyright protection, and issued simultaneously in London and New York.

AN INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICAL BACTERIOLOGY. A Guide for Students and General Practitioners. By Thomas E. Satterthwaite, M.D., Professor of Pathology and General Medicine in the New York Post Graduate Medical School and Hospital, New York City. 1887. George S. Davis, Detroit, Mich.

It has evidently been the aim of the writer, in issuing this little monograph, to furnish both students and medical practitioners with a concise resumé of bacteriology, practical in character, and so extend more widely an interest in this most important topic. We must, at the outset, congratulate the author on having, in our opinion, been most successful in his undertaking. One chapter has been devoted to the subject of Germ Theories, and to the successive advances that have been made towards securing our present knowledge. Bacteriology, as a branch of medicine, has already obtained for itself a name and permanent place, in spite of the many obstacles and the vigorous opposition it has encountered; and this, too, in face of the fact that many of its fundamental principles are