

especially of those near or involving joints, has made diagnosis more accurate and treatment more intelligent. The application of the Rontgen ray to the diagnosis of fracture of bone has already contributed much toward an accurate interpretation of the physical signs of fracture. The author says that this greater certainty in diagnosis has suggested more direct and simpler methods of treatment. Antisepsis has opened to operative surgery a very useful and profitable field in the treatment of fractures. The final results after the open incision of closed fractures emphasize the fact that anesthesia, antisepsis, and the Rontgen ray are making the knowledge of fractures more exact, and their treatment less complicated.

This work is intended to serve as a guide to the practitioner and student. Many of the details in treatment of fractures are described, and as far as possible these details are illustrated. Mechanical simplicity is advocated. An exact knowledge of anatomy combined with accurate observation is recognized as the proper basis for the diagnosis and treatment of fractures. The expressions "closed" and "open" fracture are used in place of "simple" and "compound" fracture. "Closed" and "open" express definite conditions, referring to the freedom from, or liability to bacterial infection. The old expressions are misleading despite their long usage.

This work clearly explains the latest and best methods whereby we may correctly diagnose fractures, and then in an easy manner shows us the proper treatment to be used. One chapter deals with the uses of plaster-of-Paris and another takes up the ambulatory treatment of fractures. The volume is essentially practical, and should be in the possession of every practitioner who is desirous of obtaining a good practical grasp of the subject of the diagnosis and treatment of fractures. The work is more than well supplied with illustrations which are of unusual merit. We have no hesitation, after a close perusal, in recommending the book, which will prove of particular use to the general practitioner.

R. C.

A Text-Book of Practical Therapeutics. By Hobart A. Hare, M.D., B.Sc. Eighth edition, revised and largely re-written. Lea Bros. & Co., Philadelphia and New York, April, 1900.

This eighth edition in less than ten years proves the truth of the aphorism that "nothing succeeds like success." The secret of Prof. Hare's success in the volume before me lies in the fact that he knows the busy practitioner needs but a hint to place him on the right track, while the overburdened student cries aloud to be delivered from lengthy and erudite discussions of minute physiological actions, and appreciates something he can easily remember and make good use of in his prospective practice. In the nearly eight hundred pages of reading matter, there is not a redundancy of expression nor a word too much. Neither is there the jerky dogmatism that marks the quiz compend. The work is invaluable to the world of readers to whom it appeals, and will, I hope, see many revisions and editions at the hands of its capable author.

To those who, like the author, are teaching the subject, there will be, of course, always minor differences. Among them, the perennial question of classification. Personally I incline to Schmiedeberg, —while admitting that Hare's is handiest in a rush.