

In the matter of locks, preference is given, and with apparent justness, to what is known as the flat-button lock—another feature of the Davis forceps. In the application of the forceps the position on the back is recommended, and, we think, with every show of reason. The application to the sides of the child's head is cogently urged, and very excellent directions accompany this injunction. He condemns the passage of the instrument in the *pelvic curve in toto*, and crosses swords at once with Baudelocque, Levret, Cazeaux and Schroeder, Leishman, Barnes and Fauntleroy. While we cannot but admit the force of his arguments, yet our own experience inclines us to believe that the procedure which he deprecates is oftentimes the easier and more practicable one; and, moreover, in this benighted country, where malpractice suits are not yet unknown, it will perhaps continue to be "enough to satisfy the ambition of a private man" to act upon the principle, "*Malo errare cum Platone quam cum aliis sentire verum*," as being at once both prudent, and dictated by "the first law of nature." In speaking of traction, the author describes a method of effecting this when the forceps are applied at the inlet, which we ourselves have frequently practised, as have others to whom we have spoken about it. For a description of it, want of space compels us to refer our readers to the book itself. With reference to the amount of force to be employed, we are persuaded that the author is right in stating that great force can never be required, and, moreover, "cannot be applied in the right direction." Pendulum leverage is discarded as useless and injurious, and we think rightly so in view of Smith's able demonstration of its effects; and our author has little to say in favour of "rotation" by means of the forceps, an instrument capable of little good and much evil in this regard.

We regret that want of space prevents us from discussing many interesting and instructive points considered in the text; but we are persuaded that we cannot do our readers a greater service than advise each of them to buy and criticize this little volume for himself. We know of no way in which a dollar and a half of money and two hours and a half of time could be more profitably invested.

*Lessons in Gynecology.* By WM. GOODELL, A.M., M.D., Professor of Clinical Gynecology in the University of Pennsylvania, etc. Second Edition. Philadelphia: D. G. Brinton.

Dr. Goodell has been known for some time as one of the best clinical teachers on the Continent, and the publication of his "Lessons" was looked for with much interest. So popular was his work that the first edition, although a large one, was exhausted in a few months. We have now before us the second edition, which we have perused with much interest. The author aims at no great elegance of diction, and yet the style is attractive. Any one, who commences to read it, is not apt to be satisfied until he has reached the last page. In this edition the whole matter has been revised, and four new lessons added, together with twelve new illustrations.

After a description of instruments and modes of examination, he treats of affections of urethra, bladder, and vulva. We endorse everything he says in the main, but would suggest caution in the use of "large doses of quinia" in cystitis, as, according to Milner Fothergill, and Stillé, this medicine is apt to produce irritability in a healthy bladder, especially in elderly people. It has appeared to us at times to produce this effect in people who could hardly be called elderly. Lessons ix. and x., on laceration of female perineum, with treatment, are especially good, although, we think, he is rather hard on the forceps. A word of caution in the use of this valuable instrument may, however, become necessary in this fast age, when the tendency is to rush through everything at railroad speed.

In treating acute and chronic metritis, and endo-metritis, the author uses the more ordinary terms, and does not adopt Thomas's term, areolar hyperplasia for chronic metritis. He makes no effort to draw those nice distinctions between inflammations of the neck and body of uterus respectively which are often more perplexing than useful. His account of the various mal-positions of the uterus is clear, and his description of different kinds of pessaries, and mode of using them, is in the main correct, though, we think, he rather