

Book Reviews.

Pregnancy, Labor, and the Puerperal State. By Egbert H. Grandin, M.D., Consulting Surgeon to the New York Maternity Hospital; Consulting Gynæcologist to the French Hospital, N.Y., etc.; and George W. Jarman, M.D., Obstetric Surgeon to the New York Maternity Hospital; Gynæcologist to the Cancer Hospital, N.Y., etc. Illustrated with forty-one (41) original full-page photographic plates from nature. Royal octavo, pages viii, 261. Cloth, \$2.50 net. Philadelphia: The F. A. Davis Co., publishers, 1914 and 1916 Cherry street.

We have in this volume a companion to Obstetric Surgery, forming together a very good practical and up-to-date work on obstetrics. This work avoids the mistake, made in so many books on this subject, of having a large portion devoted to Embryology, Anatomy, Physiology, etc., and we quite agree with the authors, that all this should have been mastered by the student before he begins obstetrics. We must especially commend the plates, which are all new and very practical, and which will enable the student to grasp the points intended to be taught at once, although both in this country and in England the back is not the position ordinarily chosen for confining a woman in, unless in cases of operative interference. This work is divided into three parts: I. Pregnancy, with three chapters, shorn of a great deal of the usual verbiage, and stated so that the student can readily grasp the different points. II. Labor, with four chapters, the first two being the mechanism and clinical course of labor, both very good; the third chapter, the management of normal and abnormal labor, the first part of which, the management of labor, which is really the *raison d'être* for the book, is not up to the standard of the other chapters, *e.g.*: the very slight notice given to the management of the anterior lip when capping the head, the want of the necessary knowledge being a fruitful cause of lacerated cervix. Again, in the care of the perineum, whilst it may serve the practitioner with experience, is not suitable for students. Again, the finger should avoid the rectum if at all possible; but the treatment of the placenta when extruded from the vagina as regards the membranes, and the theory of the cause of the retention of the membranes, are certainly to be condemned as not being founded on facts, any more than the statement about the use of iron in post-partem hæmorrhage, etc. Chapter four, devoted to the care of the newborn child, is decidedly good. Part III consists of two chapters on the normal and pathological puerperium, both of which are vastly better to anything we have yet seen in print. The work complete should be on every physician's shelf, and the student who possesses a copy will be able to post himself on everything new in Obstetrics.