

Book Reviews.

A Treatise on the Medical and Surgical Diseases of Infancy and Childhood. By J. Lewis Smith, M.D., Clinical Professor of Diseases of Children, Bellevue Hospital Medical College, Physician to Charity Hospital, etc., etc. Eighth edition: thoroughly revised and greatly enlarged; with two hundred and seventy-three illustrations and four plates. Lea Bros. & Co., 708 Sansom street, Philadelphia; 111 Fifth avenue, New York.

The fact that this important work has reached an eighth edition attests to its great popularity as a standard text-book and work of reference in this large department of medical work. The book has been thoroughly revised, and all recent advances in etiology, pathology and therapeutics have been incorporated in the various chapters, thus necessitating the re-writing of many of the chapters and the addition of new ones. It also contains five times as many engravings as its predecessor, besides several full page plates. There are nearly a thousand pages, printed with somewhat smaller type than in the ordinary text-book, which has permitted a thorough detailed treatment of the various subjects. Part I. contains much that is interesting and of special importance to be versed in by those engaged in pediatric practice, such as the anatomy and physiology of infancy and childhood, care of the mother in pregnancy, wet-nursing, modification of milk in consequence of diet, age, mental impressions, menstruation, pregnancy, medicines, and other causes, and rules in regard to lactation, artificial feeding, bathing, clothing, sleep, exercise, etc.

A number of valuable tables are given, showing the analysis of human and cow's milk, and of a number of artificial foods, which have been in general use, and pointing out the fact that they all differ widely from human milk, except those consisting largely or wholly of cow's milk; and this, practically, is what has to be selected as being the most available nourishment and the nearest approach to and substitute for human milk, all points in regard to its source, quality, amount, freedom from micro-organisms, Pasteurization, predigestion, combining it with dextrinized barley-gruel, etc., are fully considered. The chapter on the diagnosis of infantile diseases is very complete and instructive. The various diseases are grouped and considered under the headings: diseases of the newly born; constitutional diseases; diathetic eruptive fevers, and other general diseases; malformation and deformities; diseases of the blood; local diseases; diseases of the cerebro-spinal system, digestive apparatus, respiratory and circulatory systems, genito-urinary organs and diseases of the skin. The scope and comprehensiveness and, withal, condensation which characterizes this authoritative work, may be seen in the article on scorbutus, a subject on which there has been much discussion and light thrown by the investigations of Barlow and others. Yet we can get the cream of all the writings on the subject in the page and a half devoted to it here.

In this edition the subject of surgical diseases of children has been added, the articles coming from the pen of Dr. Stephen Smith, author of Smith's Operative Surgery.