

be supplied, and supplied by one admirably fitted to do justice to the theme. The historical narrative treating of the medical men in Upper Canada from the foundation of the Province, which Dr. William Canniff, of Toronto, is now passing through the press, ought to be hailed with satisfaction, if not with delight. The beginnings of the professions in Upper Canada necessarily introduce to us many of the men who were the makers of the Province. Of these, the physicians and army surgeons who settled in Upper Canada after the Revolutionary War, form no inconsiderable portion of that element in the community which gave substance to the national fabric and contributed to its integrity and stability. It adds no little to present-day interest in these early medical practitioners to know that not a few of them were U. E. Loyalists, and identified with the cause which led many of the then inhabitants of the Province to sacrifice their all for the sake of living under the grand old Red Cross banner of Britain. These and other interesting facts in the public and professional career of these men may be looked for in the goodly volume which Dr. Canniff has now in preparation. The volume, I take it, will primarily be of value to present-day members of the medical profession; but its interest will by no means be confined to such. In its scope much, I believe, will be treated of which will make the work of inestimable value to the historical student as well as to the general reader. In this it will commend itself to every lover of Canadian annals, and to every well-wisher to the native literature. Coming from the pen of so devoted a student of Canadian history, and enthusiastic member of the medical profession as Dr. Canniff, the subscription list should be eagerly filled, and the work thereby hastened in its appearance. A youthful community like Canada owes too much, in many ways, to its medical men of a past generation to be indifferent to their fame or heedless to their memory.

G. MERCER ADAM.

TORONTO, November 20th, 1891.

The above criticism by Mr. G. Mercer Adam is sufficient to show the value and great importance of Dr. Canniff's work to the medical profession. There is still needed a certain number of subscriptions in order to satisfy the publishers before the work will appear, and we trust the doctor's able effort will meet with the hearty and generous support at the hands of the medical profession, which it so richly deserves. The work will be illustrated by the wood cuts of a considerable number of prominent doctors of this province, among which are Drs. Widmer, Rolph, Workman, also a picture of the first medical school building

in Upper Canada, erected for the medical department of King's College. The names of those willing to subscribe may be sent to Dr. Canniff, care THE CANADA LANCET, Toronto, and will be duly acknowledged.

ESSENTIALS OF BACTERIOLOGY: Being a concise and systematic introduction to the study of Micro-organisms, for the use of Students and Practitioners, by M. V. Ball, M.D., late resident physician, German Hospital, Philadelphia; with seventy-seven illustrations, some in colors. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders. Toronto: Carveth & Co. 1891; pp. 158. \$1.

A useful book for students and practitioners of medicine who are devoting any attention to the study of this important subject. The work is practical and should be in the hands of every medical student for reference, as the many allusions in current medical literature to bacteriological terms, must render reading unsatisfactory without some such guide.

A MANUAL OF PRACTICAL OBSTETRICS: By Edward P. Davis, A.M., M.D., Clinical Lecturer on Obstetrics in the Jefferson Medical College; Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Children in the Philadelphia Polyclinic, etc., etc. One hundred and forty illustrations. Philadelphia: P. Blackiston, Son & Co. 1891; pp. 198.

The author has given in this work a concise statement of modern *practical* obstetrics as taught by Parvin, Lusk, Winckel, Galabin, and others. He has omitted details of anatomy and physiology, and devotes his pages to obstetrics alone. The book contains much needful information in a small compass, and might well supplement the student's notes taken in the lecture room.

CALOMEL IN THE TREATMENT OF GALLSTONE, COLIC AND ICTERUS.—Von Sacharjine recommends (*Med. Chir. Rundschau*) calomel in doses of five grammes, at first hourly, later every two hours. The medicine is continued until the copious, greenish fetid discharges appear. The author usually gives not more than 12 doses, after which he finds no more copious stools. The patient is then given a dose of castor oil. Under the influence of this treatment there is disappearance of pain, the appetite returns, and the urine clears up.

Sometimes, unfortunately, this improvement is only temporary. In these cases the author goes back at once to the first dosage, and generally has the satisfaction of a complete cure.