

student, while it will be found sufficiently full of detail for the general practitioner. Thomas and Emmett should both be read by every practising physician; but to the student preparing for examination we would decidedly recommend Thomas. The world is deeply indebted to the Woman's Hospital of New York for the two admirable works of Thomas and Emmett on the Diseases of Women.

*Medical Chemistry, including Outlines of Organic and Physiological Chemistry.* By C. GILBERT WHEELER, Professor of Chemistry in the University of Chicago, and formerly Professor of Organic Chemistry in the Chicago Medical College. Second and revised edition. William Wood & Co., New York. 1880.

This work contains over 400 pages, has good print and binding, and presents a neat and creditable appearance.

We regret that time has not permitted us to peruse its contents more carefully; but from reading a considerable portion of this volume we are led to regard it as an excellent text-book for the use of students of medicine and organic chemistry in general. Several points have struck us as being but feebly elucidated in the other text-books of organic chemistry that have come under our notice, and in scanning the pages of Professor Wheeler's book we are forcibly reminded that these very difficulties are satisfactorily cleared up. With respect to the chemistry of physiology, it may be said that the author's treatment of the blood, the theory of respiration, and the urine, is at once concise and comprehensive, and exhibits the results of the most important recent scientific researches.

*The Science and Practice of Midwifery.* By W. S. PLAYFAIR, M.D., F.R.C.P. Third American Edition. Revised and corrected by the Author, Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea; 1880; Toronto: Hart & Rawlinson.

The appearance of a third edition of a medical work within little more than three years is almost inexplicable, but from those who have been fortunate enough to obtain a copy of former editions the enigma disappears. In our opinion, this stands first among the obstetric works of

the day. Since the appearance of Tyler Smith's admirable lectures we have met with no work on midwifery so charming in its style and so clear in its precepts. It may not be better in principles and practice than Leishman, although in a few points *we* think it is; but its manner of stating them is so captivating and easy that when the reader opens the book he is very loath to close it.

Few men have the faculty of stating their opinions in so few words without their writings having a cramped or jerky style; but in Playfair, while his periods are short they are always smooth. The whole work, the author tells us, has been revised, and a notice of the more important additions to obstetric science introduced, prominent among which is a full chapter devoted to the discussion of Gasto-Elytrotomy and the Cæsarean Section. The American editor, as usual, has introduced in brackets a number of points more particularly connected with American practice, and this, coupled with the fact that the author has revised the edition specially for this country, will show its adaptation to the needs of Canadian and American readers.

*4 System of Medicine.* Edited by J. RUSSELL REYNOLDS, M.D., F.R.S., with numerous additions and illustrations by HENRY HARTSHORNE, A.M., M.D. In three volumes. Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea; 1879; Montreal: Dawson Bros.

An American reprint of this inestimable English publication, only completed about a year ago, is to be placed within the reach of the practitioners of this continent at a price which must prove fatal to the Old Country edition. With the morality of such a procedure we have not here to concern ourselves, but merely to announce the receipt of the first of the three volumes constituting the American reprint, and to acquaint our readers with its characters and contents.

Volume I. contains the English prefaces to all the volumes and the introductory chapter by the English editor. It is then divided into two parts; the former being devoted to the consideration of "General or Systemic Diseases," as in the English edition, and containing supplementary chapters by the American editor.