

Vesico-vaginal Fistula; the radical cure of Hernia, and the subject of Chloroform and the too frequent deadly results of its administration may be mentioned as having received special addition or improvement, whilst in the last chapter I have taken pains to bring into small compass the latest and best information on Excision of the Knee joint."

We have thus given the peculiarities for which the present volume or edition is distinguished. In fact surgical literature is brought down to its latest period; the present day, and whether we view Dr. Druitt's Surgery as a guide to operative procedures, or as representing the latest theoretical surgical opinions, no work, that we are at present acquainted with, can at all compare with it. It is a compendium of surgical theory (if we may use the word) and practise in itself, and well deserves the estimate placed upon it, viz., that of a text book on surgery both in the school of McGill College and elsewhere. We know of no work on surgery, which gives so much valuable information to the enquiring student and practitioner, in the same space, and hence its value as a text book in the class room of the teacher of surgery.

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ART. LVIII.—*On the theory and practice of Midwifery.* By FLEETWOOD CHURCHILL, M.D., M.R.I.A., &c., &c., with additions by D. Francis Condie, M.D., &c., with one hundred and ninety four illustrations. A new American from the fourth corrected and enlarged English edition. Philadelphia: Blanchard & Lea. Montreal: R. & A. Miller, 8vo. pp. 655.

The present edition is a decided and marked improvement upon the last, and the rapidity, with which this favourite volume is passing through its editions, affords the strongest proof possible of the strong hold which it has taken on the mind of the profession. Few works on this branch of medical science are equal to it, certainly none excel it whether in regard to theory or practice, and in one respect it is superior to all others, viz., in its statistical information, and therefore, on these grounds, a most valuable work for the physician, student or lecturer, all of whom will find in it the information which he is seeking.

This edition however differs somewhat from the preceding ones. To use the author's language, he "has added what he found wanting, pruned what appeared redundant, and corrected what was vaguely or carelessly expressed," and on examination the text bears out these remarks. The American editor's labours have added also to its general value, and altogether the present edition exceeds the preceding one by the addition of at least one half more matter, thus rendering it one of the most clear and concise exponents of the theory and practice of midwifery which we possess, while it is furthermore enriched by two valuable additional chapters, the one on the "operation of craniotomy," the other "on the qualifications and duties of the monthly nurse."

To criticize a work, which has repeatedly undergone that ordeal, and has always received most favourable notice, is a task of supererogation. In its present improved condition we most cordially commend it to the notice of the profession and of the student; to the former, as containing most valuable rules of practice, and to the latter, as a most complete embodiment of the science and art of midwifery. Of the author, in regard to the contents of this volume, it may be with perfect propriety said, "*nil teigit quod non ornavit.*"