

seems a story of reflection, in the sense of looking backward. The author impresses his readers with the idea that he is himself enjoying the luxury of re-living bygone days. Around a fireside, or a dinner table, the world shut out, Dr. North and his friends talk of many things, people, and lands near and distant. Quickly and with never-lagging-interest flows the tide of conversation, from sculpture to Italy, from law to labor, from love to art, from spiritualism to religion. Soon the reader unconsciously changes his attitude and becomes one of the circle, an eager listener, but as children say, "Listeners never hear any good of themselves," and as though resenting the intrusion, one of Dr. North's friends speaks of Canada, and this is what he says (page 151): "Look at Canada, older than we, what has she to show? Colonies have no adult life. They are overgrown children. They are simply imitative, and imitation implies weakness." Of course, some of Dr. North's friends are supposed to represent poor human craft with their sails not full set, or perhaps just one little jib missing. No great sailor, who has made the wonderful study of humanity tossed on a sea of nervous unrest, his life-work, and found so often "bits of wreck" cast upon the shore, could draw a perfect chart of his voyage without indicating the idiosyncrasies of the great fleet made up of men and women of the nineteenth century.

The novel is rare of its kind. So comprehensive in discussion of its varied subjects, so pleasing in description and quotation, occasionally it reminds one of a delightful book published some few years ago by a young author, called "Conversations in a Studio." Lucky the physician who finds in his stocking on Christmas morning, "Dr. North and His Friends" come to "take turkey" with him. Won't somebody give old Santa Claus a timely hint? W. A. Y.

Notes on the Modern Treatment of Fractures. By JOHN B. ROBERTS, A.M., M.D., Professor of Surgery in the Philadelphia Polyclinic, Mütter Lecturer on Surgical Pathology of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. With 39 illustrations. Pp. 159. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1899. Canadian Agents: J. A. Carveth & Co., Toronto.

It is refreshing to peruse this small volume, which is full of valuable suggestions in the treatment of fractures. It is not a complete account of all the various fractures met with, but deals largely with general principles in the treatment of fractures in general, and there is free discussion of certain special fractures (e.g., those about the elbow-joint,) which is exceedingly valuable, and will prove of great practical utility to the surgeon who is confronted with the difficult problems which present themselves in the treatment of such cases. Roberts advocates the exposure of the fragments in a certain limited number of closed fractures—"where there is ignorance of the exact lesion, impossibility of reduction, imperfect immobilization or failure to deal efficiently with complicating lesions." "An aseptic incision is almost devoid of risk in such cases, even if it opens a joint." This forms the text of a most interesting chapter on "The Modern Treatment of Fractures."

We can most heartily recommend this volume; it is thoroughly practical, suggestive and original. The author arrives at his conclusions after a logical process of reasoning, which cannot but commend itself to the critical reviewer.

A. P.

A Text-book of Pathology. By ALFRED STENGEL, M.D., Professor of Clinical Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania; Physician to the Philadelphia Hospital; Physician to the Children's Hospital, Philadelphia, etc. With three hundred and seventy-two illustrations. Third Edition revised. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders & Co. 1900. Canadian Agents, J. A. Carveth & Co., Toronto. Price, in cloth, \$5.00; half morocco, \$6.00.

There are purchasable at the present day several very good works on the subject of Pathology. The great fault, however, with many of them is, that too little attention is given to pathology from a clinical standpoint, and too great space devoted to this branch of study simply and solely as concerning