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APPENDICITIS AND OTHER DISEASES OF THE VERIFORM APPENDIX. By *Howard A. Kelly, M.D.* With 215 original illustrations, some in colors, and three lithographic plates. Philadelphia, London and Montreal: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1909.

If this and no other work had emanated from the brain and pen of Dr. Howard A. Kelly, the volume before us would have stamped the one who prepared it as the foremost authority of this subject. Four years ago, H. A. Kelly in conjunction with E. Hurdon, brought out a larger book, which at that time was the most comprehensive volume on the appendix which was ever published on this subject, and now, within four years, this, as may be called a second edition, has appeared.

The "Record," New York, in a review says "The author has attempted to make this edition of more practical value to the general surgeon, yet it should be read by everyone who is today practising medicine. The chapters on clinical history, leucocytosis, and treatment before and after operation, will prove of great value to the practitioner who never touches the scalpel.

The first chapter contains a history of this disease and well shows the great part played by the American surgeons in clearing up the real nature of the many conditions formerly grouped under the term "idiopathic peritonitis." The anatomy and pathology and the appendix and the different locations of the organ in the abdomen are made clear by numerous illustrations and by diagrams picturing the embryological development.

The chapter on treatment previous to operation is addressed particularly to the practitioner who has no surgeon at hand, yet a list of aphorisms contained in it should appeal to the surgeon as well. One of the most imperative of them is "never give purgatives in appendicitis."

The operative technique is given minutely and as the illustrations are extremely plain and lucid, there is left nothing