

necessary for two things to happen simultaneously—a disintegration of the spermatozoa and an abrasion of the mucous membrane of the uterus; though such is possible, we think it highly improbable.

Morrow contributes a long article of great value on Syphiloderma, profusely illustrated by means of photographs and chromolithographs.

Syphilis affecting mucous membranes, the viscera, genito-urinary organs, nervous system, bones, ligaments and the organs of special sense, is exhaustively dealt with.

In considering the treatment, *legislation in relation to syphilis* is spoken of. Among other valuable suggestions, we are told that "every adult citizen should be aware, for his own sake, of the possibilities of contamination which surround him," etc.

That portion of the work devoted to *syphilis in relation to public health* should be read by every practitioner, be he health officer or not. Attention is drawn to a fallacy that exists wherever regulations governing prostitution have been enacted, and that is that there is no control over the source whence the contagion arises, or, in other words, over the *frequenters* of places of prostitution.

Stress is laid upon the fact that syphilitics should be on the *free list* of hospitals, and we would add that, in order to make such places more attractive to these people, good accommodation should be furnished, and a little consideration given by those in attendance.

In a work of this kind there is great danger of repetition, but the danger was seen early, and an effort made to avoid overlapping, by defining the ground each article was to cover. Notwithstanding this, some repetition does occur.

The work is, however, an excellent one, each article vying with the preceding in its practical character, and making the whole work of inestimable value to the general practitioner, for here he has a complete resumé of the literature on the respective subjects to date.

D. Appleton & Co. are to be congratulated upon the high class of the book-making and the beauty and clearness of the plates. Indeed, it is second not even to some of their former efforts in medical works.

The Popular Science Monthly. November, 1893.
Edited by WILLIAM JAY YOUNG. Contents:

The Conservation of our Oyster Supply; Evolution and Ethics; Laplace's Plan for Perpetual Moonlight; Electricity at the World's Fair; The Pestalozzian System; The Scientific Method with Children; Nature at Sea. North and South American Aboriginal Names; Immaterial Science; An Argument for Vertical Handwriting; Vegetable Diet; Origin of the Mississippi Valley Rainfall; Mathematical Curiosities of the Sixteenth Century; Birds' Judgments of Men; Sketch of John Ericsson; Editor's Table; Literary Notices; Popular Miscellany; Notes. New York: D. Appleton and Company.

A Treatise on the Science and Practice of Midwifery. By W. S. PLAYFAIR, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P.; Physician-accoucheur to H. I. and R. H., the Duchess of Edinburgh; Professor of Obstetric Medicine in King's College; Physician for the Diseases of Women and Children to King's College Hospital; Consulting Physician to the General Lying-in Hospital, and to the Evelina Hospital for Children; Late President of the Obstetrical Society of London; Examiner in Midwifery to the Universities of Cambridge and London, and to the Royal College of Physicians. Sixth American edition from eighth English edition, with notes and additions by Robert P. Harris, A.M., M.D., Honorary Fellow of the American Gynecological Society, and of the Philadelphia Obstetrical Society; Corresponding Member of the Obstetrical Society of Surgery, and of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical Academy of Naples, etc. In one octavo volume of 697 pages, with five plates and 217 illustrations; cloth \$4.00, leather \$5.00. Philadelphia: Lea Bros. & Co. 1893.

This new edition of this well-known work will only require notice from us of the changes and new ideas interlarded by reason of the advance in obstetrical practice on both sides of the Atlantic. The chapters on "Extra-Uterine Pregnancy" (VI.), "Cæsarean Section" (VI., Pt. IV.) and "Puerperal Septicæmia" (V., Pt. V.) are practically rewritten, and a new chapter (VII., Pt. IV.) on "Symphyseotomy" introduced. Porro's operation is fully described, and the position of Cæsarean section in 1893, with a tabular statement, is granted a few pages. The success of this work has been so great that craniotomy is fast being done away with. In other ways the work is very conservative, sticking to old lines which are the good and strong ones. The edition is well worth the perusal of any accoucheur.