

PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION.

During the many years the author has been engaged in teaching in various departments of medicine, it always appeared that much valuable time was lost to the student, and important points missed, in efforts to secure such notes as would furnish him with a knowledge of the teachings of the lecturer.

When it is demanded of a teacher to so arrange his lectures that his listeners may secure the required notes, his efforts are apt to become dry and uninteresting, and often simply a species of dictation.

In the opinion of the author, lectures, to be interesting, instructive, and impressive, should assume more the form of demonstrations, than set lectures, during which important features might be made plain, knotty questions discussed, obscure points elucidated, and methods for medical and surgical treatment made clear by the aid of blackboard drawings, maps, plates, and morbid specimens, leaving the intervening material for study elsewhere.

The large and excellent text books on the market are, as a rule, too cumbersome to carry backwards and forwards to class, and in order that the student might have a convenient text book for such a purpose, and in which he might note important points dwelt upon, and in order that the lecturer might feel he was free to demonstrate the subject as seemed best, without being confined to set lectures, it occurred to the author to place his extended notes in the form of a text book of such proportions as would not be cumbersome, and yet sufficiently comprehensive as to fully cover the subject. By such means it is hoped to make class attendance less cumbersome and irksome, the material imparted more instructive, and lessen the time required by students in securing an accurate knowledge of the subject.

While undertaking the task, acknowledged by the author to be a difficult one, it occurred to him that by extending