

son's calibre. It contains the most curious admixture of heterogeneous pieces of information (nearly always useful) it has ever been our lot to meet. Nevertheless the attainment of a third edition in six years attests the filling of a want. Unfortunately it does not at the same time attest the existence of a high standard of attainment amongst those to whom it has proved most useful. The weakest part is the section on Poisons and Antidotes. Many parts, such as "How to use a Galvanic Battery," "How to Apply Trusses," etc., taken from such works as Tibbits' and Wood's, are excellent. All sorts of subjects are treated of, and in this last edition numerous and important additions have been made. To recent graduates it will, of course, prove most serviceable.

*The Pathology and Treatment of Diseases of the Ovaries.* By Lawson Tait, F.R.C.S. Edin. and Eng., Surgeon to the Birmingham Hospital for Women, etc. New York: William Wood & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

Mr. Lawson Tait is well known as one of the most progressive surgeons of the day. His more recent operations in abdominal and pelvic surgery have been followed by results both brilliant and successful. He has laid down the following Surgical law, "That in every case of disease in the abdomen or pelvis, in which the health is destroyed or life threatened, and in which the condition is not evidently due to malignant disease, an exploration of the cavity should be made," and considers that the abdominal cavity may be opened in such cases with "perfect safety." His operation for the removal of the ovaries and Fallopian tubes is generally known as "Tait's operation," but is called by himself the "removal of the uterine appendages." His reports of cases of this description, as well as those of abdominal section for gall stones, pelvic suppuration, etc., are very interesting. This is the fourth edition of the work, but when compared with former issues shows many changes and additions. Every practitioner should know what Lawson Tait is doing, and the simplest way to acquire such knowledge is to read this book.

*The Diseases of Women, a Manual for Physicians and Students.* By Heinrich Fritsch, M.D., translated by Isidor Furst. New York: Wm. Wood & Co., 1883.

This book, with its brilliant covers, forms the March number of Wood's Library of Standard Authors. It is an eminently practical work, as shown in many little points throughout the various descriptions, etc. For instance, in stating that it is necessary to insert two fingers into the vagina for the purposes of diagnosis, "the middle finger is always inserted behind the first, even in multipara. The expert causes little pain, for the penis is thicker than two fingers." In speaking of vaginal irrigations he details a convenient method of carrying them out, but we submit that it is not a very efficacious one, as the patient is directed to be in a sitting position. The description of the characters of the fluids obtained by tapping the various ovarian and abdominal tumours is good. The wood cuts are unusually clear, and many of them are new. We can cordially recommend the work to those for whom it is intended—more especially as no preface sets forth the many reasons that induced the author to supply a long-felt want, nor his peculiar fitness for the self-imposed task.

*A Treatise on Therapeutics Comprising Materia Medica, and Toxicology with especial reference to the application of the Physiological action of Drugs to Clinical Medicine.* By H. C. Wood, M.D., Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1883.

This well-known work which has now reached its fifth edition, preserves its pristine energy. The author has not lagged by the wayside, but has brought the subject matter quite up to the onward march of the times. His classification is more or less based upon Physiological grounds. But as he says "a system of classification is merely a row of pegs upon which to hang our ideas and facts." It makes little difference if the system be to our taste or not, provided the ideas are handy and the facts correct.

His method of treatment is to give a short definition and description of the class and sub-class and of the various members of the sub-class. He takes up the Physiological action, Therapeutic uses, Toxicology and mode of administration of the chief or more important remedies. The various theories deduced from experimentation and the experiments themselves, are placed in a very clear light, and a short criticism where it appears necessary is appended. He freely assents to or boldly disagrees with