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We venture to believe that from two different aspects this fourth volume will seem to be worthy of special attention. First, because of the extremely practical, teaching character of the important articles, and secondly, because of the unusual beauty of the illustrations. Our readers will be particularly interested in the results recorded by Dr. Maurice H. Richardson, of Harvard, in his article on Surgery of the Stomach and the Intestines, the use of the Murphy button, Senn's plates, etc. McBurney, of New York, is naturally regarded as pre-eminently the authority on Appendicitis, and his clear enunciation of the technique of the operation will, beyond doubt, prove exceedingly helpful. Lusk's contribution, on Symphysiotomy, is a beautiful example of how to write an article so as to give a word-painting of the operation so clear in outline and so distinct in detail as to make it easy for any intelligent practitioner to meet every indication with perfect readiness. The illustrations, too, greatly assist in elucidating the text. The thoroughly up-to-date character of the book is displayed in the addition of a chapter on the Röntgen rays in Surgery from the pen of Dr. W. W. Keen, of Jefferson. The other articles in the volume are as follows: Tumors, by F. S. Dennis; Hernia, by W. T. Bull; Surgery of the Alimentary Canal, by L. S. Pilcher; Surgery of the Liver, by Robt. Abbe; Diseases of the Uterus, by W. M. Polk; Surgery of the Ovaries and Tubes, by Joseph Taber Johnson; Minor Gynaecological Surgery, by H. C. Coe; Surgery of the Thyroid Gland, by Robert F. Weir, and Surgical Peculiarities of the Negro, by R. Matas. The publishers claim that these four volumes of Dennis'

System of Surgery form a handsome and thoroughly practical exposition of the Surgery of to-day, offered by those whose positions as teachers and writers qualify them in the highest degree for the task they have assumed. It is with sincere pleasure, too, that they acknowledge that the profession throughout the entire country has not been slow to show their appreciation of the opportunity to obtain so grand an encyclopedia of the surgical art.

Plomains, Leucomains, Toxins and Antitoxins; or the Chemical Factors in the Causation of Disease. By VICTOR C. VAUGHAN, Ph.D., M.D., Professor of Hygiene and Physiological Chemistry, and FREDERICK G. NOVY, M.D., Junior Professor of Hygiene and Physiological Chemistry in the University of Michigan. New (3d) edition. In one 12mo. volume of 603 pages. Cloth, \$3.00. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co. 1896.

It is now generally recognized that those diseases which cause the greatest mortality, and consequently are of the greatest importance, are in reality cases of poisoning; that pathogenic germs are living poisons, and that every infectious disease is actually an intoxication. Not only are these chemical factors in the causation of disease, but furthermore, specific chemical agents are now being employed in its prevention and cure. In the present volume will be found a systematic exposition of etiological, preventive and curative chemistry. The widespread interest in its department, and the acceptance of this volume as the standard authority, have led to the demand of three editions. These opportunities have been utilized by the authors to keep it always abreast with the rapidly advancing knowledge in its department. The present edition has not only been thoroughly revised throughout, but also greatly enlarged, ample consideration