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## PREFACE TO THE FOURTH EDITION

IN preparing the present edition of this Manual a further increase in size has been found necessary in order to include the advances in various subjects which have been made during the last three years.

The introduction of Abderhalden's Test, and the progress which has been made in our knowledge of the pregnancy-changes in the endocrinous glands, has altered the aspect of the General Physiology of Pregnancy so much that this section has been entirely re-written. The description of the Toxæmias of Pregnancy, and of the obstetric treatment of Eclampsia, has also been completely revised.

The valuable work of British obstetricians in recognising and explaining the Local Contraction Ring as a cause of obstruction in labour has been taken advantage of, and an attempt made to classify the different varieties of over-action of the parturient uterus. The treatment of Placenta Prævia has also been completely revised.

Four coloured plates are included in this edition, which it is hoped will be of service to students making their first