

Dr. Heitzman spoke of the treatment of freckles with the following ointment: R. Precip. alb. Mayisterin bismuth, 3·50; glycerin, 30.

Dr. Stellerwagon, in an exhaustive paper, demonstrated the uselessness in dermatology of many of the oleates. In the discussion which followed there was a general consensus of opinion that the oleates of mercury and copper were the only preparations of this class of any value. The latter is very much inferior to other parasiticides, and the former is of value only in certain conditions of parasitic disease. For general use ointment is much superior to the oleate.

Book Notices.

The Technology of Bacteria Investigation.—
By CHARLES S. DOLLEY, M.D. Boston: S. E. Cassin & Company, 1885.

European investigators have hitherto done the lion's share of the work in the study of bacteriology. Dr. Dolley urges upon his American confreres the necessity of being up and doing, if they wish to add their quota of discovery in this important study. He gives explicit directions as to culture, staining, mounting, etc., and describes the methods followed by all the eminent foreign pathologists. The literature of this subject is briefly but fully given, and a valuable chapter on "Formulary" concludes the book. Microscopists will find it very useful for reference in their investigations.

A Treatise on the Science and Practice of Midwifery. By W. S. PLAYFAIR, M.D., F.R.C.P., Professor of Obstetric Medicine in King's College, etc. Fourth American from Fifth English edition. With notes and additions by Robert P. HARRIS, M.D. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co.

Playfair's Midwifery is the best known work on this subject among Canadians. As a textbook for medical students we think it the best available. It is useful not to students alone but also to obstetricians, among whom it is a favorite. Five English and four American editions show its popularity in the Old and New Worlds better than any words of ours possibly

can. The American editor has made some additions, especially as to the use of forceps, with patient on her back; describing American instruments; objecting to the use of stimulants for wet-nurses and convalescent parturient patients; and favoring the more frequent resort to Cæsarian section by the German methods.

A Practical Treatise on Urinary and Renal Diseases, including Urinary Deposits. By WM. ROBERTS, M.D., F.R.S. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co.

The fourth edition of this very valuable work is now before us. It is one of the most exhaustive treatises in our language, and will be of great value to the general practitioner as a book of reference.

In these days, when disease of the kidneys is of such frequent occurrence, it is of great importance that the physician should have a thorough knowledge of the subject, so that he may be able to diagnose the condition early, and thus treat it with greater success.

This work is divided into three parts. The first part is devoted to the physical and chemical properties of urine, and to the various alterations which it undergoes under different circumstances of health and disease, in so far as they seem to have a practical bearing.

The second part treats of a number of affections which may be put under the head of urinary diseases, viz: diabetes insipidus, diabetes mellitus, gravel and calculus, and chylous urine.

The organic disease of the kidney forms the subject of the third and largest part of the work.

This edition contains the very latest information with regard to parasitic disease of kidneys and micro-organisms in urine. Under the heading of Bacteruria, a description is given of the organisms sometimes found in recently voided urine. He divides these cases into three groups, (1) Bacteruria, associated with incipient putrefactive changes in the urine; (2) Bacteruria, with ammoniacal fermentation of the urine; (3) Bacteruria, without decomposition of the urine. Cases of the latter condition Dr. Roberts thinks are not at all infrequent.

The book is well got up in all respects, and should be in the hands of every practitioner.