

Perhaps more of the distinctly medical side of this disease is given than one would expect to find in a book on orthopædic surgery. The treatment of the paralyses and the paralytic sequelæ is good. Hoffa's operation for paralysis of the deltoid, by transplantation of the trapezius, is given.

Anterior metatarsalgia is well described. Morton's operation, the author says, is as a rule successful, but in the majority of cases it is unnecessary. The treatment of ingrown toe-nail is confined to a single operation, that of Webb, by means of silver wire placed under and around the nail. This method evidently has proved sufficient in the hands of the author.

The sane discussion of shoes, which this work presents, might wisely be read by every layman. Much social good would accrue if it could be distributed widely as a tract.

The treatment of club-foot by stretching, so warmly advocated and so forcibly applied by Lorenz, is well presented. It is here that the German and Austrian surgeons have excelled. Great good is accomplished whenever the orthopædist declares his appreciation of the susceptibility of the soft tissues to the influence of stretching. "*Man hat in der Orthopädie viel zu wenig mit der Elasticität der Theile gerechnet.*"

J. P. WARBASSE.

DISEASES OF THE COLON. By P. LOCKHART MUMMERY, F.R.C.S.
322 pages, illustrated. John Wright & Sons, Ltd., 1910.

This work, founded on the Jacksonian essay for 1909, is timely because of the greater frequency of pathologic conditions of the large intestine which have developed during the past few years, consequent in some measure, certainly, to the introduction of the modern diet of prepared foods, and to an increase in the number of people employed in sedentary occupations; both factors inhibiting most markedly the stimuli to peristalsis, and thus giving rise to the most potent factor in the etiology of disturbances of the large intestine. Such a book is the more welcome because it serves to classify and correlate the very rapid strides which the diagnoses and treatment of these conditions have taken.

It is difficult to classify the book, as it falls far short of being encyclopædic in its scope, and, on the other hand, is not monographic in its detail. Throughout is to be noted a very meagre bibliography, and but seldom is mention made of ex-

tensive consideration by contemporary authors of the subject in hand. The American literature suffers particularly in this respect, although the work of Cannon and others is deservedly mentioned and accredited under the chapter of physiology.

After the rather brief chapters on physiology, bacteriology, etc., the author considers the congenital abnormalities of the colon, chiefly dilatation, and introduces the operation of appendicostomy for its relief, quoting a successful case; this certainly deserves consideration.

This is succeeded by a good presentation of volvulus of the colon; but the following chapter on adhesions and kinking of the colon is rather defective in the consideration of their treatment.

Chapter IX takes up inadequately the X-ray diagnosis of colonic malpositions, and no mention is made at all of the stenoses consequent to carcinomata, or the presence of diverticula. In considering the subject of pericolitis, the presence of diverticula is mentioned as its etiologic factor in some cases. The confused ideas of the author regarding the etiology in cases of cancer occurring in conjunction with diverticula is noticed on page 195. Reference to contemporaneous American literature would, we feel, have served to eliminate the rather indefinite position taken on this question.

We are glad to note the author's ideas on the treatment of chronic constipation, particularly inasmuch as they are not in accord with those writers who regard the colon as of small importance to the bodily economy. The author deprecates the operation for its relief as practised by some, namely, that of resection of the colon with its consequent 33 per cent. mortality. Doubtless there are a few cases in which this procedure may seem indicated, but they must be extremely rare, and the reviewer fully agrees that the more simple one of appendicostomy should at least be given a thorough trial.

The chapters dealing with tuberculosis, simple stricture, embolism of the mesocolic vessels, cancer, colotomy, and the various other operations on the colon, while good to a degree, are, on the other hand, disappointing in the very noticeable deficit of details.

The book is admirably written, but it cannot be considered in any way a complete résumé of our present-day knowledge in this department of medicine and surgery.