Book Reviews

Version in Obstetrics. A Description of the Potter Method. By Irving W. Potter, M.D., F.A.C.S., Obstetrician-in-Chief, Deaconess Hospital and St. Mary's Maternity Hospital; Attending Obstetrician, City Hospital; Consulting Obstetrician, Children's Hospital, Buffalo; Homeopathic Hospital and Salvation Army Home, Buffalo, N. Y. 140 pages 6 1/2 x 9 1/2, with 42 original engravings, many in two colors. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Co., 1922. Price, silk cloth, \$5.00.

The meat of the text is contained in the one chapter, "The Author's Technic of Version," the remainder of the book being an elaborate review of the history of version work and answers to the criticisms directed at the author's technic and records. One gets the impression throughout that version is a panacea for all obstetrical ills and therefore an armament without limitation except in the two instances cited by the author, viz: transverse position with threatened rupture of the uterus and technically contracted uterus. The matter as presented by the author precludes all ideas of spontaneous deliveries. It virtually throws into the discard the art of pelvimetry and substitutes for accurate prenatal fetometry the judgment of the operator after he has inserted the hand into the uterine body and ruptured the membranes. The actual technic of the author may have great merit, but the scope of usefulness of the Potter method of version will be accorded different limitations as the accoucheur, in many instances, will refrain from intrauterine manipulations as a time-saving, labor-saving and pain-saving device.

The Management of the Sick Infant. By Langley Porter, M.D., M.I.C.S., Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, University of California Medical School; Visiting Physician, San Francisco Children's Hospital; Consulting Obstetrician, Babies' Hospital, Oakland, etc.; and William E. Carter, M.D., Assistant in Pediatrics and Chief of Out-Patient Department, University of California Medical School; Attending Physician, San Francisco Hospital, etc. 654 pages, with 52 illustrations, mostly original. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Co., 1922. Price, silk cloth binding, \$7.50.

This work represents a departure from the traditional text book on diseases of children in that it confines its scope to the diseases of infancy and does not include childhood as distinguished from infancy.

The whole field of the disorders and diseases of infancy is covered and well covered and is evidently based upon a large experience and knowledge of the subject. The question of feeding, whether of well or of sick children, is handled in a broad spirit and is not characterized by any sectional or merely local views or school. Breast feeding is, of course, given the preference over all other methods, when available.

In the classification of intestinal disorders agreement is not to be expected, and here authors should have the usual liberty of trying out their hands in this most difficult field. A section of the work is devoted to methods of diagnosis and of treatment and is especially well illustrated for the purpose of making the context more plain. This lucid exposition of the different measures of diagnosis and treatment should prove of real value to men not constantly putting into execution the various procedures.

A return to former usage is found in a list of suggested prescriptions for various conditions and disorders. These are given as suggestions and generally, as was Dr. A. Jacoly's habit, are prefixed with a "may be given" rather than a "should be given."

The work is well presented, is highly practical and should prove of value.

Urine Analysis and Diagnosis by Microscopical and Chemical Examination. By Louis Heitzmann, M.D., Formerly Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology, Fordham University School of Medicine, New York. Fourth revised and enlarged edition. 362 pages with 131 illustrations. New York: William Wood & Co., 1921. Cloth, \$1.00.

The general plan of the contents is a detailed outline of chemical examination for normal and abnormal contents of the urine, and then a description of the microscopic examination. The third part presents the microscopic urinary diagnosis of the usual kidney and bladder pathology. The concluding chapter is on the determination of functional efficiency of the kidneys, written by Dr. Walter T. Danner. This is a very instructive article. The whole book is an excellent laboratory guide, and presents the subject clearly.

Tuberculosis in Infancy and Childhood. Lectures Delivered at the Children's Hospital, Philadelphia, under the Auspices of the Philadelphia Pediatric Society. By J. Claxton Gitting, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, Graduate School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania; Visiting Physician, Children's Hospital, Philadelphia; Assistant Pediatrician, University Hospital; Frank Crozer Knowles, M.D., Professor of Dermatology, Hershey Medical College; Clinical Professor Dermatology, Woman's Medical College, etc.; and Astley P. C. Ashhurst, M.D., Associate in Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. 123 pages with 23 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1922. Cloth, \$5.00.

This is a convenient and worth-while book to the student, general practitioner, pediatrician, and those interested in this important phase of tuberculosis. Its smoothness of diction, its logical sequence in developing and drawing conclusions are excellent. It is not burdened with theories and superfluous arguments. The chapter headings are unusually well selected. The chapters on glandular and pulmonary tuberculosis are the best and most complete that have recently appeared. The chapter on bone tuberculosis has more valuable material and less superfluous matter than usual.

The treatise is a well systematized monograph. It is a pioneer work, is readable from cover to cover, and is gotten up in a pleasing style.

Life and Times of Ambrose Pare. With a New Translation of His Anatomy and an Account of His Journeys in Divers Places. By Francis R. Packard, M.D., Editor of *Annals of Medical History*, New York. 297 pages with 22 text illustrations, 27 full page plates and 2 folded maps of Paris of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. New York: Paul B. Hoeber, 1921. Cloth, \$7.50 net.

Rarely has the reviewer encountered a more absorbing historical and biographical sketch than the work under consideration. In an age of conquest, intrigue and religious persecution, Pare lived a life of hardship and excitement interspersed with forced opportunities for study, experiment and writing. His revolutionary treatment of wounds without the use of boiling oil and his application of the ligature to amputations to render his name immortal.

"Ambrose Pare was more than a great surgeon; his reputation for honesty and sagacity was such that he became the confidant and counselor to many of the courtiers and soldiers with whom he came in daily contact."

The book is not a mere chronicle of events in Pare's life; it is overflowing with bits of French history and anecdote. It is charmingly written and is most deserving of a hearty reception.

The Genuine Works of Hippocrates. Translated from the Greek with a Preliminary Discourse and Annotations. By Francis Adams, LL.D., Surgeon. Two volumes in one. Vol. I, 336 pages. Vol. II, 366 pages. Illustrated. New York: William Wood & Co.

The design of the work is to give a translation of all the genuine remains of the Great Hippocrates, along with such an amount of illustration as may be sufficient to render them intelligible to any well-educated member of the profession at the present day.

None but one possessed of scholarly attainments could edit a text of this kind. The annotations are very full and clear and greatly elucidate the work.

One cannot read Hippocrates without marveling at his modernness and accurate clinical observation even when measured by the standards of today.

The translation is carefully made and the commentary full.

The work is one to be desired by all who regard medicine as more than a bread-winning vocation, and who are interested in the pioneer views of one of the greatest minds that ever adorned the profession or that the world has ever known.

Hayfever and Asthma. Carr, Prevention and Treatment. By William C. Scheppegrell, A.M., M.D., New Orleans. 274 pages, 107 engravings, 1 colored plate. New York: Lea and Febiger, 1922. Cloth, \$2.75.

Dr. Scheppegrell, President of the American Hayfever Prevention Association, is one of the recognized authorities on hayfever and asthma, and so this first edition of his work commands the respect and approval of the profession. No disease is more distressing, and the profession is unfortunately too helpless in giving relief. A better source of information could not be had than this little book.