BOOK REVIEWS

A Practical Treatise on Ophthalmology. By L. Webster Fox, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Ophthalmology in the Medico-Chirurgical College; Ophthalmic Surgeon Medico-Chirurgical College Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa. Volume of 807 pages, with six colored plates and three hundred illustrations. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York and London.

In order to keep the reader in touch with the fundamental information regarding the origin, character and structure of the tissues of the eye, a short, concise and instructive chapter is devoted to the development of the eye. The anatomy of the eye—from its bony cavity to the delicate hyaloid membrane, is discussed in sufficient detail to refresh the memory of those who desire information along these lines, while the physiology is most interestingly interwoven. Of special interest are the illustrations of the arterial, venous, lymphatic, and nerve supplies. Most valuable suggestions as to the external examination of the eye are impressed in a special chapter. In the discussion of diseased conditions of appendages, parts or structures of the eye, the author begins with those most superficial, easily seen or reached, and follows them in order, which at once fixes the attention and impresses the importance of a rational method. A feature of the work which makes it attractive and most helpful, especially to the student or the general practitioner is, that when a diseased condition is described, and methods of treatment are discussed, then the most effective remedial agents either singly or in properly formulated prescriptions are given, and the best manner of applying is described, thus placing in the hands of those of fewer opportunities the results of his greater experience. After considering the treatment of any diseased condition, both as to local and constitutional measures, if the pathological process is one which terminates in deformity of appendage or ob-

scuration of vision, the author then reviews the various operative procedures which have been devised and resorted to for the relief of the given condition, always enhancing and elucidating the subject by his own views as to methods. The illustrations of operations, the ample explanations of methods and technic, the after care and treatment of cases, are all most instructive and helpful, for the author has had peculiar success, and by reason of his wide experience and large opportunities is in a position to offer the best suggestions as to methods and probable results. Every chapter is complete in its presentation of the particular subject under discussion, and each one is most interesting and instructive. Perhaps the most pertinent to the general practitioner is that devoted to the ocular manifestations of general diseases, which includes constitutional conditions, diseases of the digestive tract, gynecologic affections, infectious diseases, diseases of the adjacent sinuses, cardiovascular diseases, etc.

The chapter devoted to general operative technic is of great value, offering as it does many practical suggestions which go far towards success; while that devoted to laboratory technic is especially helpful to those who desire to prepare and preserve specimens for future use and presentation of unique cases, as well as establishing diagnoses in cases of doubtful pathology and bacteriology.

It is a good book to have, an interesting one to read, a valuable one to consult, and a distinct addition to the literature upon the subject.

G. H. P.

Practice of Medicine. Ninth edition, thoroughly revised. By James M. Anders, M.D., Ph.D., LL.D., of Philadelphia. Published by W. B. Saunders Co., 1909.

The rank of this work in medical literature is so well known that it needs no recommendation. Like the preceding editions, it covers the field of general medicine as nearly as it is