teriology of the skin is considered at some length. The various pathogenic fungi found in and upon the skin are described, together with the numerous staining and culture methods best adapted for their demonstration and study.

Numerous well-made illustrations, most of which are original, are scattered throughout the book, which materially add to its value as a text-book.

The plan of preceding the descriptions of the morbid anatomy of a part by a succinct account of its normal histology seems to us a most excellent one; as a matter of course, a knowledge of the normal structure of a tissue *must* precede an understanding of the alterations produced by disease.

In conclusion, we have only words of praise for this handbook, which we believe ought to be in the hands of every student of dermatology.

M. B. H.

TRAITE DE RADIOLOGIE MEDICALE. Edited by CHARLES BOUCHARD, Professeur de l'Institut, Professeur de Pathologie générale à la Faculté de médecine. Paris: G. Steinheil, 1904.

THIS treatise is in two large quarto volumes, containing almost 1100 pages of text and illustrations, and deals with the subject in great detail. Chapters have been written by numerous writers from the most prominent faculties of France. The opening chapters consider the sources and variety of electricity and of electric apparatus, a large space being devoted to the consideration of the Crookes tube and the physical and chemical properties of *x*-rays.

Book II. deals with the practical application of *x*-rays in medicine and surgery. The question of radiographic plates, their preparation, exposure, and development, is minutely treated.

The technique of fluoroscopic examinations and of skiagraphic procedures receives a thorough discussion, with numerous well-executed illustrations of apparatus, and next follows a treatise on "Stereometry and Stereoscopy." A large space is devoted to the study of the practical application of the *x*-rays in surgical conditions—fractures, osteitis, myelitis, acromegaly, orthopedics—and tumors of bone, luxations, arthritis, gout, rheumatism, and the arthropathies are thoroughly investigated. Following these are the examinations of the viscera, the vascular and nervous systems, the special senses, and obstetrical and fetal radiography. An interesting and instructive chapter follows on the accidents of radiology, and particularly of *x*-ray dermatitis and of burns. A remarkable feature of this enormous work is that only eleven pages are devoted to "Radiotherapy." No attempt has been made to describe methods of procedure, but a résumé of some diseases treated and the general

results reported are mentioned. Other diseases the writer declines to discuss, on the ground that they are still in too experimental a stage for conclusions.

The book is an interesting exposition of a vast amount of investigation, but it is not presented in a form that would render it available for the ordinary practitioner. F. F.

THE PRINCIPLES OF "OPEN-AIR" TREATMENT OF PHTHISIS AND OF SANATORIUM CONSTRUCTION. By ARTHUR RANSOME, M.D. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1903.

THE present agitation for a more rational treatment of tuberculosis has called out a crop of semi-popular literature, of which this little book is a fair sample. While the author aims to set forth the principles upon which the open-air treatment—chiefly in sanatoria—should be based, and addresses himself to physicians, the style of the book is such as to make it appeal rather to the general public than to the medical profession. Except that it contains useful practical directions about hygiene, clothing and the like, and for the construction of a sanatorium, it has no special interest for practitioners. But anything that tends to popularize the knowledge of what has already been achieved by modern methods of treatment and what there still remains to be done, not only by the profession, but by municipalities and the general public also, deserves cordial commendation. R. M. G.

THE EXACT SCIENCE OF HEALTH BASED UPON LIFE'S GREAT LAW. By ROBERT WALTER, M.D. New York: Edward S. Werner Publishing Co. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co., Ltd.

THE best that can be said of this publication is that the writer's purpose is probably sincere and that its practical teaching, which resolves itself into the principle of non-interference in disease, is not actively harmful. The style reminds one forcibly of that of Mrs. Eddy's book, and the matter is scarcely more intelligible. It bristles with scientific inaccuracies and still more mischievous perversions and misinterpretations of facts. The author is, no doubt, a conscientious carer for the sick, and has some practical notions on treatment, especially the methods collectively known as physiologic therapeutics; but for the comfort of the reading public we trust he will stick to his practice and leave the writing of books to those who are better versed in the craft. R. M. G.