BOOK REVIEWS

IN CHARGE OF
M. E. CAMERON

THE SURGICAL ASSISTANT. A Manual for Students, Practitioners, Hospital Internes and Nurses. By W. Brickner, B.S., M.D. Price \$2.00. New York: International Journal of Surgery Co., 100 William St.

Almost every great surgeon nowadays has some small details in operating technique peculiar to himself and the wise nurse or assistant is the one who is able to adapt herself at once to the requirements of the operator. For this reason it is well to know not only the methods of one's own clinic or hospital but to note and observe wherever we have the opportunity elsewhere. Dr. Brickner puts the nurse last in the list of those for whose benefit he writes, but we venture to predict that "the last shall be first," in this case, for the book is one sure to make itself popular and become a necessity in the nurse's library.

The book is divided into two parts and an appendix. The second part, including chapters XI to XXV, is written with reference to the surgical assistant proper, or the second surgeon. The first part, chapters I to X with the appendix is, for the surgical nurse, the best practical manual that has so far come to our notice. Apart from its value as a practical teacher, the book possesses a more than common literary merit; it has style; it is such readable matter.

MEDICAL ELECTRICITY AND LIGHT TREATMENT. A Practical Handbook For Nurses. By Kate Neale, Sister-in-charge of the Actino-Therapeutic Department, Guy's Hospital. London Scientific Press, Ltd., 28, 29 Southampton Street, London.

We are glad to have from Miss Neale so interesting a description of the theory of medical electricity and light treatment as she gives us in her very readable little book on this subject. She claims to follow closely the larger text-books on medical electricity, but she has eliminated much that was, to the general reader, confusing and mystifying; we are very much the gainers who read Miss Neale's adaptation of the greater writers. There is withal a very comprehensive treatment of the subject, and while the book has a value peculiarly its own for nurses and students it will probably find many readers among lay folk, especially that large class who find pleasure and profit in the so called popular-science literature.