THE PRACTICE OF SURGERY. By HENRY R. MARTIN, M.D., and B. FARQUHAR CURTIS, M.D. Third edition. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1902.

THAT another addition of this admirable book has appeared attests its appreciation by the general practitioner, for whom it is primarily written.

To present all the subjects with which surgery deals to day within one volume, and to do it attractively and well, is a great task. This has been accomplished by the authors.

The active surgeon finds it more and more difficult to keep in touch with the whole field of surgery. He can hardly keep informed without literary assistants. It is necessary for the general practitioner, in order to keep abreast of surgical progress, to make use of such a contribution to surgical literature as this book affords.

The illustrations of the volume are being added to and improved upon. It is a pleasure to see old-time wood-cuts which do not illustrate passing out of surgical literature and their places taken by photographs.

The chapters upon Fractures and Dislocations are extremely practical and helpful.

The chapters on Operative Surgery are perhaps necessarily illustrated by old-time plates. It will be refreshing to see these replaced by something better.

The article on Bandaging is most attractively illustrated. The treatment suggested for the various surgical diseases described is that followed by the authors, and is eminently satisfactory, most of the details of treatment following common custom. It is far wiser in a book of this sort to describe one or two methods of treatment which are generally satisfactory than to confuse the reader by a description of many methods.

The book is thoroughly modern.

It is the best general surgery which the reviewer has seen in English.
C. L. S.

THE PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTION AND THERAPEUTIC USES OF THE NITRITES AND ALLIED COMPOUNDS, INCLUDING THE CROONIAN LECTURES FOR 1893. By the late DANIEL JOHN LEECH, M.D. (Lond.), D.Sc. (Vict.), F.R.C.P.; Senior Physician to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, and Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the Owens College. Edited by R. B. WILK, M.D. (Lond.), M.Sc. (Vict.), M.R.C.P., Leech Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the Owens College. Pp. 187. Manchester: Sherratt & Hughes, 1902.

DOUBTLESS many of our readers will recall the distinguished presence of the author as Chairman of the Section on Therapeutics at the meeting of the British Medical Association at Montreal in 1897. Many more have not only read but studied his contributions to that branch of medical literature in which he was pre eminently a master, and have felt that for him chemistry and physiology, the library, and the laboratory in pharmacological studies were but means to an end—therapeutics—in order that suffering might be assuaged and life prolonged or saved.

"The Relation of Pharmacology to Therapeutics" (1884) is scholarly, and even eighteen years later is full of interest and suggestion. "Spiritus Ætheris Nitrosi" (1883), "Ethyl Nitrite" (1888), and a comparison of these in the latter year seems at this time a presentation of well-known facts, yet when published had great influence in shaping medical opinion and determining therapeutical practice. Intermediate (1885) appeared the paper "On the Duration of Action of Medicines, with Especial Reference to the Nitrites and Nitroglyceria." The important feature of the book is to be found in the subjects discussed in the Croonian Lectures of 1893, to which we have in another place called attention in this JOURNAL. Here the facts and the possibilities of combinations of various bases with nitrate and even nitrate radicals were presented as they never had been before, and even reading the lectures to-day they are fully abreast of the times; yet in the summary (p. 159) the author fully recognizes the fact that much as he had already accomplished a still larger field invites investigation. To add to the value of the work a most excellent bibliography is appended, and the thirty-eight plates show graphically the statements made in the text. Although most advanced clinicians are conversant with the author's conclusions, and even his papers, as they originally appeared, all will welcome their assembling in one volume, revised in part to 1900. In presenting this volume, in a way a monument to the memory of its brilliant author, the editor has shown not only ability, which his own writings have demonstrated, but as well a sympathy with both the lamented author and his work.

R. W. W.

ATLAS AND EPILOGUE OF TRAUMATIC FRACTURES AND DISLOCATIONS.

By PROFESSOR DR. H. HELFERICH, Professor of Surgery at the Royal University, Greifswald, Prussia. Authorized Translation from the German. Edited by JOSEPH C. BLOODGOOD, M.D., Associate in Surgery, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. Fifth edition, revised and enlarged. With 216 colored illustrations on 64 lithographic plates, and 190 figures in the text. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders & Co., 1902.

It is fortunate for authors and publishers, if not for students and readers, that all the elements of a topic are rarely if ever treated and illustrated in one book with an equal degree of completeness and success.

In the province of pathological anatomy of fractures and dislocations, the brilliantly—almost diagrammatically—colored lithographic plates of Helferich's *Hand Atlas* may be said to be unsurpassed. But in the matter of skiagraphic illustration, although some of the plates are excellent, it cannot compete with the work of Hopkins, nor in treatment with that of Scudder.

In his first edition, the author states that his *Atlas and Epitome* is intended for the student and also as a ready handbook of reference for the practitioner. That this work is now in its fifth edition testifies that its excellence has been appreciated. Its small and compact form make it particularly helpful in fulfilling the author's purpose. Its conciseness, completeness, and admirably illustrative character make it particularly serviceable to the student of the anatomy of fracture and dislocation.