BOOK REVIEWS

The work generally is very well done. Gray's Anatomy has ever been a favorite text-book with students and practitioners, and this twenty-first edition will assuredly greatly increase its popularity. Credit is due to the Messrs. MacLehose, who have printed this volume. It is produced in a good, clear type with differentiated headings and care has been taken with the illustrations which are remarkably clear and distinct.

WILLIAM MACEWEN.

A MANUAL OF PRACTICAL ANATOMY. By THOMAS WALMSLEY, Professor of Anatomy in Queen's University of Belfast. Longmans, Green & Co.

The present volume of some 180 pages represents the first of three parts into which the work is divided, and deals with the dissection of the upper and lower limbs, containing besides an introduction by the author. The introduction deals with the objects of dissection, the order in which the work is best done, and the nature of structures met with. It is open to question whether the anatomist's view expressed therein, that the student "in the practice of his profession will be called upon to operate on the living body, and a true preparation for this task is careful and thoughtful dissection," will meet with the approval of the teacher of surgery, who often finds the eradication of the "dissecting habit" one of the most difficult tasks in a course of practical operative work.

Each section is prefaced by an order of dissection recommended and time table, and these are followed by a short note on the surface anatomy of the part, and instructions for making the incisions and exposing the parts. The general directions are printed in a bold type and the descriptive matter in smaller type, while reference to the principle structures is facilitated by the use of thick type and an index. The instructions are commendably brief and clear, and the text is supplemented by numerous diagrams.

JOHN A. C. MACEWEN.

FRACTURES. Compound Fractures, Dislocations, and their Treatment, with a section on Amputations and Artificial Limbs. By JOHN A. C. MACEWEN, M.B., C.M., B.Sc., MacLehose Jackson & Coy, Glasgow, 1919.

This is a text-book for students and medical practitioners of 271 octavo pages. The author is a teacher of the subjects discussed, who has taught large classes of students in two of the largest of Scottish general hospitals; and besides his practical acquaintance with these injuries in industrial life, he has to his credit similar experience in the Army in the field during the Boer War and in military hospitals at home during the European War. The teaching inspired by so long and varied experience and practice is simple, direct, and lucid.

BOOK REVIEWS

The first portion of the book deals with fractures, a brief discussion of fractures in general, growth of bone as affecting healing, and general considerations regarding diagnosis and treatment, being followed by a detailed account of fractures of individual bones. The text is illustrated by outline drawings indicating the sites of insertions of muscles and the directions of the displacing forces. While varieties of splints are freely illustrated and their mode of application carefully described, more recent methods of dealing with such injuries without splints have full justice done them and the cases suitable are indicated.

A similar method is followed in dealing with dislocations, the varieties of dislocation at each joint being considered in detail one after the other, and the various steps of reduction by manœuvre being precisely stated.

A section is devoted to amputations necessitated by compound fracture, and here there is a valuable summary of the newer methods of treating shock, the composition, method of preparation, and mode of giving the various saline or gum-saline solutions being carefully noted, as well as the method of blood transfusion, and the means of determining suitable donors, while the causes of persistent sepsis in the stump are discussed.

In considering the best method of amputating in each individual case, the author keeps in view throughout the necessity of providing "a stump which, when fitted with an artificial limb, will restore in varying degree the usefulness of the damaged limb." With this end in view, amputations affecting the upper and lower extremities are discussed with reference to the possibilities of adaptation of artificial limbs, and modifications as to site of election and detail of method are suggested as the result of improvements effected in the manufacture of artificial limbs, stimulated by the war. The author had abundant opportunities in the Scottish Hospital for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers at Erskine of taking part in these developments, and this text-book profits thereby.

This section of the book is specially well illustrated by plates from photographs, illustrating useful and unsuitable stumps, and various types of artificial limbs, both apart and applied, including the Erskine provisional limb.

An Appendix summarizes the scale of payments for compensation for such injuries under the Workmen's Compensation Act (1906). An unusual abundance of illustrations for a text-book of this size is obtained by full-page plates from photographs, three, four, and sometimes six subjects being combined in one plate without loss of distinctness.

Only the author's long experience in the teaching and practical handling of these subjects could have enabled him to compress so successfully, without sacrifice of needful detail, so much material into a handbook of this convenient size, which an excellent Index renders quickly available.

J. MACGREGOR ROBERTSON.