is to prescribe. I will say that in my practice I prescribe, would rather do so than be troubled with filling prescriptions, but I do not propose (if I can help it) to have taken away from me the privilege of filling my own prescriptions; and I will venture the assertion that 95 per cent. of the physicians of the United States feel the same way.

It is all right to safeguard the health of the public; it is also wise to enact laws to punish sellers of abortificients and habit-forming drugs when sold or used in such, but to handi-
cape physicians with such legislation is unjust, unwise and a rank piece of class legislation.

J. C. Bynum.

[The bills referred to by our correspondents appeared in The Journal, July 25, page 335. The first clause of the bill objected to prohibits the interstate traffic in any of the drugs named except on the original prescription or written order of legally authorized practitioners of medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine. As stated in our comments, we assume the object of the framers of the bill to be to put a stop to the treatment of diseases by mail-order methods—in other words, by advertising quacks—by the use of dangerous drugs. We are unable to see how this interferes with the physician prescribing or dispensing as he deems advisable. However, certain changes in the phraseology of the bill may be necessary to make its meaning clear and to secure the desired results.—Ed.]

Quin in as a Local Anesthetic.

FREDONIA, N. Y., Aug. 10, 1908.

To the Editor:—Allow me to state that at the annual meet-
ing of the Chautauqua County (N. Y.) Medical Society, held July 14, 1896, I reported that: "Quin in is a safe and efficient anesthetic when used hypodermically and much safer than cocaine."

A report of the proceedings of that meeting in the Buffalo Medical Journal of August, 1896, page 32, contains a reference to my report. My attention was called to the matter by an article in The Journal, August 8, by Dr. E. J. Brown on "Quin in Anesthesia."

V. M. Grissom, M.D.

**Book Notices**


A volume of carefully selected medical essays by a great man is more valuable than most new text-books, although unfortunately this fact is not so generally appreciated as it should be. For many years, whatever Sir William Broadbent wrote has been read by the profession with avidity, for his authority is undisputed. This volume shows well the breadth of his accurate knowledge. The first seven essays treat of cardiovascular diseases; four of pulmonary diseases; four of renal diseases; fourteen of neurologic subjects and as many more of miscellaneous topics. They have been selected from his contributions to periodical literature and medical societies and date from 1863 to 1907. Although a few were written a generation ago, they have not lost interest in that time.

Many think of Broadbent as especially a writer on diseases of the heart and blood vessels, but this collection and the bibliography appended to it show his literary fecundity and his breadth of knowledge. The first essay in the group of neurologic ones is a reprint of that in which he expounds what is sometimes known as Broadbent's hypothesis, by which he attempts to remove the difficulties attending the applica-
tion of Dr. Carpenter's theory of the function of the sensori-
motor ganglia in the common form of hemiplegia.

These articles are so full of thoughtful criticisms and of practical suggestions, both as to the nature of disease and its treatment, that it will be found interestingly written by studious practitioners of medicine. A few describe curious cases and results; notably, the account of a case of hydro-
phobia in which the patient recovered and which the author contrasts with a case in which recovery did not take place, and with one that simulated the disease. The brief chapter written in 1866 on a new cure for cancer must also be looked on as a curiosity, but an interesting one.


The mode of treatment which has been evolved at Aix con-
ists of massage while the douche is being played on the patient. The two are given together, the spout of the douche being cleverly guided by the masseur. The author advises rather copious drinking of a spirit water which contains no sul-
phur and only small amounts of any mineral matter. The spirit is known as the Deux Réines. A chapter is devoted to the physiologic action of the treatment. Twenty-seven pages consider its adaptability to the treatment of diseases and especially gout, rheumatism and other joint inflammations.

The last pages contain information about the excursions from Aix, the amusements and varied practical advice. The best season to visit Aix is from May to October.


This little volume consists of the Hunterian Lectures for 1906. It deals chiefly with the end-results of operations on the stomach, for ulcer of the stomach, benign obstruction of the pylorus and cancer of the stomach. The author has dis-
played a great deal of energy and zeal in personally following up cases, in order to determine the end-result and in getting direct personal communications from others concerning their end-results. The deductions may be ac-
cepted, therefore, as a good presentation of the subject up to that time. Symptoms and diagnosis are not touched on, but in a short appendix the author gives his own technical of pre-
paring a patient for operation, of performing the operation and of the after-treatment.

**The Technique of Vagino-Peritoneal Operations.** By E. Wertheim and Th. Micholitsch. Translated into English by Cuth-

Vagino-peritoneal surgery is the most difficult branch of oper-
ative gynecology to describe; likewise, also, it is difficult to understand from a written description of the operations. Hence the fact that the English translation of Wertheim and Micholitsch is now obtainable will be welcomed by those who know of the original work in German and of its practical value. The book consists of but little text—just enough to explain the cuts; but the illustrations are so satisfactory that descriptive matter is unnecessary. There are 138 full page illustrations covering all the operations included in the title, from primary colpectomy to complete hysterectomy with the removal of the adnexa. The illustrations include each detail of the operation and are arranged to demonstrate each opera-
tion step by step. The book will prove of great value to those who do not have the necessary knowledge of the details of such operations, and who find it necessary to perform them.

**Miscellany**

**Rat Leprosy.—Passed Assistant Surgeon G. W. McCoy re-
ports (Public Health Reports, U. S. P. H. and M.-H. S.) the
finding of a leprosy-like disease among the rats of San Fran-
sisco in the proportion of one in 11,404. It is probable that it is even more frequent. The essential lesion or at least the one invariably found, has been a more or less general infiltration of the subcutaneous tissue and the per-
ipheral lymph glands with an enormous number of fine white or
slightly yellowish granules. This layer of tissue is usually atrophied, and the lymph glands are not enlarged and are seen to contain a number of whitish patches corresponding in
appearance to the granules found in the subcutaneous tis-
ues. The pelvic and mesenteric glands were in one instance
decidedly enlarged and showed numerous leprosy-like bacilli in
smear preparations. Alopecia, more or less extensive, was
present in 55.6 per cent. of the cases; ulceration in 62.6 per
cent. The discharge from the nose was usually of a mealy,