thereby become part of the transactions. The paper accordingly was read and illustrated with lantern slides on the sixth of June, 1906, precisely thirteen days before the appearance of the June number of *Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics*.

Until the above letter reached me I was not aware that any one ever had made any mention of the procedure. Had I known of this accidental priority of publication I would, of course, have introduced into my own article the substance of the above statement.

E. C. DUDLEY.

Medical Forgeries—The Hagen Burger Case.

KINGSTON, ONT., Dec. 8, 1906.

To the Editor:—The senate of Queen's University, at a meeting held Dec. 6, 1906, instructed the registrar to erase the name of Gotfried Leonard Hagen Burger from its list of graduates.

The minute of the senate will be of interest to your readers and is as follows:

The Senate of Queen's University, having met in conjunction with the Medical Faculty to consider questions which have arisen in connection with the degrees of Doctor of Medicine and Master of Surgery conferred on Mr. G. L. Hagen Burger by the said Senate, in September, 1904, find as follows:

First: That the degrees of Doctor of Medicine and Master of Surgery granted to the said Mr. Hagen Burger by the Senate of Queen's University were obtained in part after examination and in part on the credit of certain documents and certificates produced or referred to by him.

Second: That one of these documents, namely, a certificate from the State Board of Medical Examiners of Montana was founded on and required for its validity the possession of a regular degree in medicine obtained from some university or other institution authorized to grant such degrees.

Third: That the degree which Mr. Hagen Burger presented to the State Board of Medical Examiners of Montana was a degree purporting to be conferred on him by Kiel University.

Fourth: That the said degree from Kiel University has been ascertained beyond doubt to be a forgery.

In view of the findings, the Senate of Queen's University declare and adjudge that the degrees of M.D. and C.M. obtained by Mr. Hagen Burger from Queen's University were founded on documents which were invalid and they do hereby cancel these degrees and withdraw from Mr. Hagen Burger all right to use of them.

A recital of the evidence would encroach unreasonably on your space. Permit me only to say to our graduates and friends that although many difficulties arose in securing definite and adequate evidence, Professor Patchett's investigations in Germany during the past summer proved the forgery and enabled the senate to act.

J. C. CONNELL, Dean.

Book Notices

DIET IN HEALTH AND DISEASE. By J. Friedenwald, M.D., Clinical Professor of Diseases of the Stomach in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, and J. Kuhrah, M.D., Clinical Professor of Diseases of Children in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore. Second edition, thoroughly revised and enlarged. Cloth. Pp. 728. Price, \$4.00 net. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Company, 1906.

This volume is intended for the practitioner, the student and the nurse. The authors have accomplished with marked success the adaptation of the work to these different classes. The student will find in it a clear statement of the principles of dietetics, while the practical application of these principles in the treatment of different diseases occupies about two-thirds of the book and forms a reliable guide to the physician in selecting the diet and to the nurse in preparing and administering food. Digestion and the nature and composition of food are first discussed and the results of recent investigations are fully set forth, so that the work may be said to be well up to date. Occasionally one sees evidence that newer knowledge has not modified older statements as when the results of Chittenden's investigations, indicating that the amount of proteid required is far lower than has been supposed, is followed by the objection to a vegetable diet that the proteid requirements can not be supplied without the consumption of an excessive quantity of food. Certainly vegetarian dietaries can be arranged which will give the necessary amount of proteid according to these lower standards without the use of an excessive amount of other elements. In view of Chittenden's results it is probable that the vegetarian question needs reinvestigation. The food value of alcohol is discussed in the light of Atwater's experiments with an assumption that alcohol may be a valuable food. The authors quote

Abel's investigations as showing that the action of alcohol is to reduce blood pressure if it produces any effect and then say: "In conditions of heart weakness and arterial relaxation alcohol stimulates the heart, tones up the arteries and tends to bring about a normal condition." Whatever may be the final decision as to the therapeutic value of alcohol, such a contradiction between experimental results and clinical experience does not seem possible; one or the other is wrong, and it is probable that with more exact methods of measurement of blood pressure, etc., clinical observation will fall into line with scientific experimentation.

In the treatment of typhoid fever conservative feeding is recommended. Milk is made the basis of the diet, and the principal additions to it are in carbohydrates in the form of gruels, etc. The treatment of gastrointestinal diseases is the usual one. In hyperchlorhydria a largely proteid diet is advised and little is said of the use of fats, while the carbohydrates are condemned. In pneumonia large quantities of water are advised without reference to the possibility of overburdening the right heart by the volume of the blood. The recent views with reference to the amount of water to be allowed in nephritis are adopted and the treatment of dropsy by the removal of salt from the food is noticed and commended as useful in some cases. The feeding of infants and children is fully considered and methods for the home modification of milk are described. The book closes with dietaries for public institutions, recipes, dietaries, and useful tables of chemical composition of American foods and rapid reference diet lists for various diseases. On the whole, we believe that for practical purposes the medical man will find this work one of the best on dietetics.

MINOR MALADIES AND THEIR TREATMENT. By L. Williams, M.D., M.R.C.P., Physician to the French Hospital; Assistant Physician to the Metropolitan Hospital, etc. Cloth. Pp. 383. Price, \$2.50 net. New York: William Wood & Company.

The minor maladies dealt with by the author are colds, coughs, sore throats, indigestion, constipation, diarrhea, vomiting, giddiness, rheumatism, neuralgia, headache and goutiness. Some of these may seem to be beyond the pale of minor maladies, and it is somewhat surprising to see a chapter devoted to insanity. The forms of insanity dealt with are, however, milder cases which might yield to proper home treatment. The book is an amplification of lectures delivered by the author and aims to supply detailed information on subjects with which the ordinary text-book necessarily deals in a cursory manner. The aim of the book in general seems to have been carried out. It is a pity, however, that a writer of a text-book should be so indissolubly wedded to the use of nostrums as this author seems to be. The following is a partial list of those which appear in his pages: Glycothymoline, hazeline, neboline, nepenthe, phenazon, sanitas, terrol, paroline, cascaine le prince, mesotan, bromidia, antiphlogistine, etc. These in some cases enter into the prescriptions and must be regarded as essential parts of the author's treatment, while in other cases their composition is explained and substitutes recommended on the ground that the originals are too costly. If this is the only argument, it will have little weight with physicians who wish for their patients the best, and the favorable mention given to the nostrum is likely to greatly extend its use. A medical lecturer should take care not to encourage in his students the habit of nostrum prescribing any more than he would the use of alcohol, however much he may be addicted to employing them himself. The recommendation of nostrums in such a volume and for such complaints is the more to be deprecated, as it is in such cases that the greatest tendency to repetition and self medication is to be expected. The patient with pneumonia or typhoid fever is not tempted to economize on medical attendance by the use of proprietary medicines, but when he is once given something for his catarrh it is natural that he should continue its use not only for the same disease, but also for the diseases indicated on the labels or in the literature accompanying the original package. The slight ailments are the ones also in which the physician accepts most readily the aid of the nostrum manufacturer in order to escape the labor and trouble involved in unraveling the puzzling tangle of symptoms and framing an intelligent