Obstetrician and Gynecologist, and he also furnishes elaborate statistics from his service there and elsewhere in New York City. The latter is of especial interest, since we in America usually see European figures quoted instead of our own.

The book is well within the usual size-limit for a suitable text-book for students, while at the same time it is sufficiently full for a reference work for the practitioner.

Microbes and Men, A Surgeon's Philosophy, and Doctors Versus Folks (Constituting "Tomorrow's Topics Series").

By Robert T. Morris, M.D., of New York City. In three volumes of about 500 pages each. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday-Page Co., 1915.

"Tomorrow's Topics Series" comprises three books which every doctor should read. To say that they are highly entertaining is speaking the truth, but is only stating half the facts. Because, for that matter, a black-faced comedian may well earn the same compliment. Dr. Morris more than entertains; he instructs. He points out the pitfalls which have been encountered in his path, and he indicates means for avoiding them; or, having fallen into them, the approved method of extricating one's self. He delves deeply into the philosophy of life. It is, in fact, an autobiography of a surgeon,—an autobiography depicting a life of usefulness, of scientific pursuits, and of the maintenance of the highest ideals.

The mature reader recognizes problems which have often confronted him, whereas the young man foresees in them many unavoidable obstacles which sooner or later he must face.

He gives us a higher regard for our own profession, and a clearer understanding of our responsibilities to the world at large. On the other hand, he gives to the laity a better understanding of the physician's viewpoint in many matters, such as advertising, fee-splitting, etc.—subjects whose ethics are difficult of comprehension by them.

As a philosopher, he is deep; as a critic, he is just; and as a scientist, he is observant and accurate. We do not agree with him always,—for example, in the use of short incisions, in the employment of ungloved hands in any intra-abdominal operation, or in the admission of Osteopaths, etc., to membership in our medical societies. But after all, these are relatively trivial matters, and we can calmly disagree with him, and at the same time believe him to be perfectly honest and fearless in his fight for what he believes to be right.

Jacobson's Operations of Surgery. Sixth Edition.

By R. P. Rowlands, M.S., Lond., F.R.C.S., Eng., Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; and Philip Turner, B.Sc., M.S., Lond., F.R.C.S., Eng., Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; Teacher of Operative Surgery to the Medical School. In two volumes, with 979 illustrations (40 in color). New York: The Macmillan Co., 1915. Price \$13.00 a set.

The sixth edition of Jacobson's Operative Surgery, while including much recent material, nevertheless neglects so many important contributions to surgery that we cannot refrain from calling attention to a few of them.

In the section on nephritis as a contra-indication to operation, and in the part dealing with the indications for nephrectomy, we fail to find any reference whatsoever to the phenol-sulphone-phthalein or to any other functional test of the kidney. In America, most of us have come to regard such tests, while not infallible, certainly as being extremely helpful in prognosis and easily worth while.

Referring to the intravenous administration of saline, the authors mention only the "cutting-down-on-the-vein" method, and pass over the easier way of simply inserting the needle through the skin directly into the vein, a procedure which is satisfactory over nine times out of ten.

To the important topic of the transfusion of blood, they devote but two-thirds of a page, one method only being given. That is Aveling's, and consists of a rubber suction bulb, on either side of which is a rubber tube, stop-cock and cannula. The authors conclude: "Needless to say the operation is accompanied by considerable risks, especially from thrombosis and embolism." They ignore the indirect methods perfected by Lindeman, Kimpton-Brown, and others. Furthermore, they fail to suggest any of the several simple and rapid hemolysis tests before transfusion.

Again, in regard to swabbing out pus from the abdominal cavity in pneumococcal peritonitis, we are told that "irrigation with warm saline solution is quicker and more effective when there is diffuse peritonitis." There are few surgeons in this country who still adhere to the practice of flushing out of the peritoneal cavity that fluid which is so rich in opsonins, and whose loss might be serious enough to turn the tide against the patient.

Just one other criticism, and we shall be glad to close. The use of the word "tubercu-lar" occurs frequently throughout the work instead of "tubercu-lous."

Have we anything good to say for the books? Yes, they give in splendid form the details of an excellent lot of operations, with good cuts.

Fractures.

By John B. Roberts, A.M., M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor of Surgery in the Philadelphia Polyclinic and College for Graduates in Medicine; and James A. Kelly, A.M., M.D., Associate in Surgery in the Philadelphia Polyclinic and College for Graduates in Medicine. With 909 illustrations: radiograms, drawings and photographs, 677 pages. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1916. Price, \$6.00.

The general rule is to treat dislocations along with fractures in the same work. However, this book deals only with fractures.

One would think that with the number of such excellent treatises upon that topic, we would have no need for another at this time. However, we believe Drs. Roberts and Kelly are justified in their efforts, for they have produced quite an attractive book, dealing concisely but fully with the subject, and profusely illustrated with photographs, diagrams and skiagrams.