

## RECENT STUDIES OF CARDIO-VASCULAR DISEASES.

Medical Symposium Series Nos. 1 and 2. A Reprint of Articles Published in the Interstate Medical Journal. Paper, 212 and 216 pages. St. Louis: Interstate Medical Journal Co.

These are reprints of valuable articles on "Recent Studies in Syphilis," and "Recent Studies of Cardio-Vascular Diseases." They deserve a wide reading.

## DIET AND DIETETICS.

By A. Gautier. Edited and Translated by A. J. Rico Oxley, M.A., M.D. Philadelphia and London, J. B. Lippincott Company and Archibald Constable & Company.

A duodecimo of 512 pages, full of solid information printed in rather small type. Ordinarily the same amount of reading matter would occupy over 1,000 pages. The work is based on the chemical requirements and physiological functions of the body, and it leaves nothing unconsidered. It is illustrated by suitable drawings where necessary. It is a good exposition of the theory and practice of dietetics.

## INTERNATIONAL CLINICS.

A Quarterly of Illustrated Clinical Lectures and Especially Prepared Original Articles by Leading Members of the Medical Profession Throughout the World. Edited by Henry W. Cattell, A.M., M.D., Philadelphia, Pa., and John A. Witherspoon, M.D., Nashville, Tenn. Price, \$2.00. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and London.

Volume III, twenty-second series of this splendid publication, now on the market, is in every way worthy of its predecessors. The clinics have made their position permanent by sheer merit, until today no medical library is properly equipped unless its shelves

are regularly supplied with the successive volumes. The present number contains eight articles on "Diagnosis," five under the head of "Medicine," eight under "Surgery," one on "Ophthalmology," two on "Obstetrics and Gynecology," and two on "Occupational Diseases," all by men whose names are known and respected by physicians everywhere.

The book is unusually rich in illustrations, more than 90 in all. Where all is so praiseworthy, and so little space at the service of the reviewer, individual comment would be valueless. The volume is its own strongest advocate.

Those who examine it will seldom fail to purchase for their own libraries.

## STATE REGISTRATION FOR NURSES.

By Louis Croft Boyd, R. N., Graduate Colorado Training School for Nurses. Philadelphia and London, W. B. Saunders Company.

This is a pamphlet of 42 pages and contains a comparative summary of the laws in the United States governing the registration of nurses, with a bibliography on the subject. It is of interest to professional nurses and those who contemplate entering that profession.

## HIERONYMUS FRACASTOR'S SYPHILIS.

From the Original Latin. The Philmar Company, St. Louis, Mo.

This is a small, elegant publication on art paper and with uncut leaves. Though derived of practical use, it is of historical values, and worthy of a place on the waiting room table in the most up-to-date office. The binding is of heavy, light-slate canvas, with printing in heavy black, all presenting an unique and attractive appearance.

## THERAPEUTICS.

## EMMENAGOGUES AND ECBOLICS.

GENTLEMEN: An emmenagogue is an agent that stimulates or tends to increase or restore menstruation. This may be accomplished in a direct or an indirect manner. When treatment is directed to the organs involved in the function it is direct. When, however, we first turn our attention to the general condition of the patient and try to correct its deficiencies, such, for instance, as anemia, or use hot mustard baths to the legs and thighs, that is indirect emmenagogue treatment.

The principal drugs which are used for this purpose and which seem to have a direct effect upon the female organs of reproduction are: ergot, savine, rue, guaisac, hydrastis, caulophyllum and apiol.

Ergota, ergot, is a fungoid substitute growth in the heads of rye. In countries where rye is the principal substance used for bread the presence of this fungus in the flour often causes widespread poisoning, as the scarcity of food compels the inhabitants to consume the contaminated bread. It is sometimes called "spurred rye," from the shape of the sclerotium, or official ergot. It occurs in pieces of a dark, almost black substance, of the size and shape of the spur of a young cockerel. When fresh it can be broken across, though not readily. When it is dry and brittle it is old and useless. The fresh drug has a fishy odor and a disagreeable taste. It contains an oil which may be extracted with benzene and which has been used internally, but its efficacy