extensively rewritten. A perusal of the table of contents and the index gives an idea of the completeness of the book which is more than substantiated by a reading of the text. The subject-matter, divided into various sections, deals in a logical manner with the different phases of reproduction, pregnancy, labor, the puerperium, the surgery of obstetrics and the newborn. The section on the toxemias brings out full references to, and discussion of, all recent advances in the treatment of hyperemesis gravidarum, and eclampsia. The authors recommend and practice packing and version for placenta previa, although such other methods of treatment as extra-ovular insertion of rubber bags and Cesarean section for certain selected cases of previas are not condemned. There is an excellent paragraph on pituitrin. The subject of obstetric surgery is gone into fully. One particularly likes the care with which the details of operative procedures are brought out and described. Evidently these Irish authors are conservative in their ideas of obstetric surgery; version for every woman in labor as a time-saving device and the so-called prophylactic forceps operations are not considered in the revision. The volume may be highly recommended as an excellent text on obstetrics.

P. F. W.

EPHRAIM McDOWELL, "FATHER OF OVARIOTOMY" AND FOUNDER OF ABDOMINAL SURGERY; WITH AN APPENDIX ON JANE CRAWFORD. By AUGUST SCHACHNER, M.D., F.A.C.S., Louisville, Ky. Pp. 331; 21 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1921.

THE volume under consideration is a fairly complete exposition of Ephraim McDowell, his life, his surroundings, his confrères and opponents and, of course, his epoch-making work. Of his work the author states: "He placed in the diadem of the art and science of surgery its most brilliant gem and in the eons of time becomes the indirect emancipator of countless millions of human beings from protracted suffering and premature deaths. But after all this priceless service he practically remains unknown and unhonored." The purpose of the book is to acquaint the profession with the difficulties under which he worked and to correct some false impressions concerning him which have been accepted. For example, the traditional story that he was seriously threatened by a mob while performing the operation is based more upon fiction than upon facts. The most interesting part of the book is naturally the part dealing with the first operations, not only from the standpoint of originality, but because it gives the reader a keen insight into surgical practises and equipment of those early days. A section of the book is devoted to Jane Todd Crawford, who played the heroine's part in the memo-

able "experiment." The author is to be congratulated upon the thoroughness of his work and we presume that the repetitions which have occurred were almost unavoidable. The publishers likewise are to be commended upon the beautiful style in which they have presented the volume. It should be a welcome addition to any medical library.

F. B. B.

AIDS TO OPERATIVE SURGERY. By H. C. ORRIN, O.B.E., F.R.C.S. Ed., Surgeon, M. of P., Orthopedic Hospital, etc. Pp. 236. New York: William Wood & Company, 1921.

THIS work attempts to present to the student an epitome restricted to the salient features and essential facts of surgical operations. It is not a substitute for the classical text-books, but merely a compend useful to students in preparation for examinations. Each operation is dealt with in the briefest manner possible and only the absolute essentials are given, yet no step has been omitted, each being detailed in the order of its performance in the actual operation itself. Operative technic is not described nor are alternative methods of performing an operation always detailed. Yet the ground covered has been most extensive and the little book bears an important part in a student's library.

E. L. E.

TEXT-BOOK OF EMBRYOLOGY. By FREDERICK RANDOLPH BAILEY, A.M., M.D., formerly Adjunct Professor of Histology and Embryology, College of Physicians and Surgeons (Medical Department of Columbia University) and ADAM MARION MILLER, A.M., Professor of Anatomy, The Long Island College Hospital. Fourth edition. Pp. 624; 503 illustrations. New York: William Wood & Company, 1921.

THE present revision of this standard text-book has been thorough and includes some changes in the make up of the book. Thus the early processes of development—cleavage, gastrulation and mesoderm formation—are no longer considered separately as such but grouped under the particular animal type, a modification which it is believed will facilitate the presentation of the subject to the student. The second part of the book, on organogenesis, includes a new chapter on fetal membranes and an interesting chapter on teratogenesis. The book is well gotten up, has a very complete index, is copiously illustrated, the photographic reproductions being very good. A good feature of the book is a well-selected bibliography at the end of each chapter. This revision gives a well-balanced description of the developmental processes in the human, and may be well recommended,

P. F. W.