kopiopia hysterica, is the "prerogative" of the female sex, though the author has seen a few analogous cases in men, but in all there was some affection of the genitalia. It affects, by preference, sterile women, and statistically is most common between the ages of twenty and thirty.

According to the author's experience, there are about eight or ten cases in every thousand eye patients.

The general condition of the patients was such as is commonly found in hysterical subjects, though the more violent symptoms were usually wanting. A full exposition of the pathological condition of the uterine appendages found in connection with this *kopiopia*, by Prof. Freund, is given, and we are sorry that want of space prevents our making extracts from it.

The author is also inclined to refer that group of phenomena known under the name of "Basedow's Disease," to derangement of the sexual system. In support of this opinion he points to the fact that it is much more common in women than in men, and to the prominence of the eyes and swelling of the thyroid gland which has been frequently observed at the menstrual epoch. He also gives the details of a case of exophthalmic goitre, which made its appearance suddenly in a man soon after he had been under continued sexual excitement for some time in attempting coitus with a virgin.

In Section V. we have a consideration of the diseases of the nervous system in their relations to affections of the eye. This is a field that has been pretty thoroughly worked over, and as the section under consideration contains nothing especially new, we shall pass it by.

In looking over the remaining sections we find many things that would be of interest and profit both to the general practitioner and ophthalmologist, but the length to which this notice has already grown precludes the possibility of our extracting them. We have given enough, however, we trust, to convey an idea of the character of the treatise, and of the manner in which Prof. Förster has handled a subject which every day is assuming more and more importance.

S. M. B.

ART. XXVI.—*Contributions to Reparative Surgery: Showing its Applications to the Treatment of Deformities, produced by Destructive Disease or injury; Congenital Defects from arrest or excess of Development; and Cicatricial Contractions from Burns.* By GURDON BUCK, M.D. Illustrated by numerous engravings. 8vo. pp. 237. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1876.

In this little work of less than 250 pages, modestly entitled, "Contributions to Reparative Surgery," the distinguished author has briefly yet clearly laid down certain rules for the guidance of the surgeon in the preparation of parts, the closure of gaps, and modelling of flaps; the due observance of which cannot but be followed by gratifying results: and in the reported 29 cases, he has shown what admirable effects can be produced by properly devised and skilfully executed plastic operations. In the chapter on the transplantation of skin attention is strongly called to the existing necessity that the skin selected be in a normal and healthy condition; experience conclusively establishing "the fact that cicatricial integument cannot be relied upon for that purpose." That the skin flaps may be of proper shape and size, it is recommended to make an exact pattern from oiled silk laid upon the surface to be covered in, and allow at least one line for shrinkage; on the forehead, special care should

be taken not to wound or detach the pericranium. Evidently the author is not an admirer of that form of rhinoplastic operation, in which through the lower part of the flap the periosteum is detached and turned down to develop substitute nasal bones.

Three methods of transferring the skin have been employed by Dr. Buck: 1, by approximation; 2, by sliding; 3, by transfer from a distance; "the choice of them depending upon the conditions of the parts involved." To the raw surfaces left to heal by granulation, a so-called collodion crust is recommended to be applied, the surface being coated first with a uniform layer of scraped lint, and then with an additional layer of lint saturated with collodion, such artificial scab adhering "for from six to ten days, when it becomes detached by suppuration."

Three kinds of sutures are recommended: 1. The interrupted thread suture, inserted preferably by trocar-pointed needles; thread being regarded as fully as good in all respects as metallic sutures. 2. The pin or figure-of-eight suture, the pin being introduced by the author's "suture pin conductor" and wound with loosely twisted cotton yarn, to be removed within, at most, forty-eight hours, and the pin itself on the fourth day. 3. The beaded-wire clamp suture; small glass beads being placed on the silver wire, and brought up firmly against the skin; the advantages claimed for this being, that "it relieves the other sutures of all strain, and admits of being tightened or slackened, if necessary."

For "the reconstruction of the mouth after the entire loss of either the upper or lower lip, or of a considerable portion of either," two operations are described, each of which is regarded as possessing certain very positive "advantages over other methods in use among surgeons." For the full understanding of these, the author's own account, illustrated by his drawings, must be consulted, as no brief abstract can render them intelligible.

About four-fifths of the volume is devoted to the report of 29 cases of plastic operations rendered necessary by deformities "arranged under three classes: 1, loss of parts involving the face and resulting from destructive disease or injury; 2, congenital defects from excess or arrest of development; 3, cicatricial contractions from burns." About one-half of these cases "have previously appeared in print," some of them in the pages of this Journal.

Ten of the 29 cases belong to the first class, and prove at once how careful, painstaking, and skilful is the surgeon, and how great deformity may by "reparative surgery" be met and remedied.

Another series of cases, ten in number, serves to illustrate the author's treatment of hare-lip, and the report is preceded by a few clear and very satisfactory remarks upon the "preparation of the parts for readjustment." The operative procedure consists, in brief, in free detachment of the mucous membrane, the cutting off of a narrow flap on each side, by aid of a Beer's cornea knife; the turning down of these flaps to form the much desired central projection of the lip border, the breaking down and proper placing or removal, as the case may require, of any existing intermaxillary projection; and the securing of the denuded surfaces in apposition by the use of pin and thread sutures, one pin being "inserted close to the vermilion border below, and another close to the columna nasi above."

In a reported case of congenital hypertrophy of the tongue, in which two operations were made, in the second of these, the size of the organ was reduced by removing a wedge-shaped portion by lateral transfixion, a method of operating which the author regards as "obviously the one to be preferred," and states his reasons therefor.

The history and treatment of four cases of "cicatricial contractions follow-

ing horns," are given in full, and no other cases in the book testify more strongly to the combined skill and carefulness of the operator. Thorough freeing of the affected parts and their maintenance in proper position during the period of repair, are strongly insisted upon, and attention is called to the necessity of constantly keeping down the exuberant granulations, by the use of either nitrate of silver thoroughly and deeply applied, or the caustic potassa (the latter being only occasionally required), either or both aided by compression by adhesive straps. In one of the cases (No. 28) in which both face and hand were involved, six operations were made, the time of treatment extending over a year and a quarter.

The work contains a large number of illustrations, and they really illustrate the text, which cannot be said of those found in very many of our books; Most of the principal figures, we are told in the preface, were executed by Froning in Vienna. The only regret we have in reading the book is that its author had not written a complete treatise on "plastic surgery." From no other of our surgeons would such a work be more gladly welcomed by the profession. At any rate it is to be hoped that we will have more "contributions."

P. S. C.

ART. XXVII.—*The Tonic Treatment of Syphilis.* By E. L. KEYES, A.M., M.D., Adjunct Professor of Surgery, and Professor of Dermatology in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College; Surgeon to the Bellevue Hospital; Consulting Surgeon to the Charity Hospital; Consulting Dermatologist to the Bellevue Bureau of Out-Door Relief, etc. 8vo. pp. 83. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1877.

OUR readers may remember that in the January number for the year 1876, of the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences*, Dr. Keyes published the result of his observation upon syphilitic blood. By means of an ingenious apparatus, in numerous carefully conducted experiments, he counted the red corpuscles of the human blood, in health, and in syphilis. As the result of these analyses he found that in full health in the male there are about 5,000,000 red blood-corpuscles to the cubic mm. In ordinary cases in the city the average he puts at about 4,500,000. Syphilis, he states, diminishes in a marked degree the number of red corpuscles. The effect of mercury, however, in increasing the number of red corpuscles in syphilis is very decided, thus "Mercury in small doses for a short or long period in syphilis, alone or with the iodide of potassium, increases the number of red corpuscles in the blood, and maintains a high standard of the same." In small doses mercury acts as a tonic, to healthy animals, and also to individuals not syphilitic, augmenting the number of the red globules.

This power of mercury to increase the number of red corpuscles is the foundation of Dr. Keyes' tonic treatment, which he has so carefully elaborated in the pages before us, and which consists in the use of very small doses of mercury continued for a very long period of time. The iodides he uses, only in selected cases, when he advises that they should be pushed unsparingly. As to the curability of syphilis, our author says: "My experience leads me to state that syphilis in private practice is a very manageable disease; that a patient rarely has more than the full general eruption (the first) during which his treatment was commenced. The subsequent lesions are of a trifling character for the most part, and tertiary symptoms are very rare. I rarely see