

REVIEWS.

APPLIED SURGICAL ANATOMY REGIONALLY PRESENTED, FOR THE USE OF STUDENTS AND PRACTITIONERS OF MEDICINE. By GEORGE WOOLSEY, A.B., M.D., Professor of Anatomy and Clinical Surgery in the Cornell University Medical College; Surgeon to Bellevue Hospital, etc. Octavo, 511 pages, with 125 illustrations, including 59 full-page insert plates in black and colors. Philadelphia and New York: Lea Brothers & Co., 1902.

A CAREFUL examination of Dr. Woolsey's new book makes one feel that he has made an addition to medical literature of genuine value. Not that there is anything particularly new in surgical anatomy, and not that the author has more than kept pace with the advances of operative surgery, but it is a happy union of fact and practice, the latter based upon the former, which brings into distinct view the enhanced advantage that can be taken of this combination. The book bristles with good advice about many minor as well as more important essentials, and it is withal so entertainingly written that such advice is made to appear doubly welcome.

To speak more definitely of particular portions, we are tempted to criticise the rather meagre details which are given under the head of localization of cerebral functions. Surely a surgeon like the author might have described the method of Chiene, or the cyrtometer of Wilson, without stepping aside from his expressed intention, inasmuch as other and perhaps less simple methods of locating the principal fissures are given. An excellent instance of the applied anatomical method of diagnosis is afforded by the description of facial paralysis under the head of nerves of the head and neck. Mention is made of the anterior method of attack upon Meckel's ganglion, but not of the approach after lifting the zygoma. In the description of the nasopharynx, the anatomical arrangement of its adenoid tissue is briefly given, but the author has omitted to call attention to the fact that originally it forms a perfect collar of lymphoid tissue around the neck of an embryonic canal. He has made the same omission, by the way, in describing the appendix, whose origin from the cæcum is similarly arranged. These facts are of importance, because such tissue is extremely prone to succumb easily to infectious processes, which will explain the local disaster often seen in the throat and about the appendix.

His description of the cervical sympathetics is brief and not so full as one might wish, especially in view of the growing importance attaching to these nerve trunks and ganglia, in view of possible surgical attack upon them for not least three more or less common conditions. The writer does not like to complain of omissions, and yet he regards this book so highly that he would like to see it so complete and perfect in

all its parts that one need not refer to any other work upon its general subject.

The description of the cervical fasciæ, their various planes and compartments, is excellent and of great practical importance. When describing the branchial arches the author speaks of the first as forming the upper jaw, which is not our understanding of the embryology of the jaw. In his description of the thorax and of the roots of the lungs we would have been glad to see more space given to Bryant's well-devised and well-described operation for their exposure from behind, of which the reader would get no adequate idea from this source. So, too, in dealing with the heart, the author speaks of wounds of its various parts and of the possibility of their treatment by operation, but gives no description of any method by which the heart can be exposed for the purpose. Considering the richness of his advice in most other instances, this would appear to be a distinct omission. In speaking of the abdomen, a section of great value is that dealing with "Operations and Incisions," and here the author is as full as could be desired. This is true also of hernia operations, where the question is asked, How are we to recognize the different hernial layers? and then answered in a very satisfactory way; the author replying that it is neither necessary nor always possible to distinguish all of them, but showing how those which are distinct can be identified. In the surgical anatomy of the lumbar region are found some excellent data concerning psoas and iliac abscesses, it being shown that there are at least two well-marked forms of the latter.

As would be expected, the anatomy and the relations of the appendix are well discussed with the single exception above noted. An example of the minuteness with which particular points are treated may be found in the paragraph devoted to the nerves of the liver, where is furnished an explanation for the occurrence of pain over the right shoulder in certain cases of hepatic disease. The section on the pancreas is disappointingly short. Surely, its surgery has now attained sufficient importance to justify a more complete description of the methods of approach and of affecting posterior drainage. He who would acquaint himself with this subject would turn in vain to this work for that which he should find there. The explanation of retroperitoneal hernia is very good and more succinct than can be found in the same space in any other work with which we are familiar.

And so one might go through this book, finding no fault except here and there where it fails to contain something which the reader might expect to find in it; but it is a book of remarkable merit, showing not merely a large amount of research, but the happy faculty of giving to each anatomical fact its value when applied in practice. The work is sufficiently though not luxuriously illustrated.

Most of the illustrations have been furnished by French works more or less familiar to American students. They are probably just as good as any which might have been made from original sources; they seem, however, to detract from the distinctly American character of the work. We are pleased to see that Dr. Woolsey has abandoned the old expression lymph glands, and adopted the only term which should ever be used—i. e., lymph nodes. The term gland applied to these structures has always been misleading, and implies a primary conception of their function which is quite inaccurate.

The value of the work could be much enhanced by a more complete index. For instance, we find on Plate IX, p. 124, an allusion to the glands of Wehher and Blandin, of which we fail to find any description in the text, and to which there is no reference in the index. If they are worthy of mention in the plate they certainly deserve some allusion elsewhere. In spite of these trifling failnres or faults, the mention of which might almost be considered captious criticism, we have formed a very high estimate of the value of the work, which we helieve to be of very great value alike to general practitioners and to specialists.

R. P.

A GUIDE TO THE PRACTICAL EXAMINATION OF URINE, FOR THE USE OF PHYSICIANS AND STUDENTS. By JAMES TYSON, M.D. Tenth edition, revised and corrected, with a colored plate and wood engravings. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1902.

THE present is the tenth edition of this excellent little manual, and, although new matter has been added, the book has been so revised that its size is not greatly altered. The introduction treats of the technique of urine examination and the general physical and chemical characters of urine. The necessary apparatus for these determinations is described, and all the important chemical tests, together with the reagents used, clearly and concisely given. Part II. deals with the urinary sediments. The text is fully illustrated by woodcuts, both organized and unorganized sediments being adequately pictured. In Part III. methods for the determination of urinary calculi are given, and in an appendix most useful tables are added for reducing the metric system into the English, and *vice versa*. Altogether, the book forms a most excellent guide to the subject of urinalysis, and is especially adapted to those wishing a practical knowledge of urine examination from a clinical standpoint.

W. T. L.

THE ELEMENTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TECHNIQUE: A LABORATORY GUIDE FOR THE MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND TECHNICAL STUDENT. By J. W. H. EYRE, M.D., F.R.S. Edin., with 170 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders & Co., 1902.

WITH the general adoption of bacteriological investigation as an aid to diagnosis in clinical medicine, and the widespread use of bacteriology in various branches of industry, there results a definite need for a book devoted exclusively to the technique of this side of scientific work. The present book is not especially intended for the student of medicine, but deals with the methods of bacteriological investigation from a much broader aspect than is to be found in the usual text-books on pathological technique. Indeed, only a very small portion of the volume is allotted to the study of pathogenic bacteria, and thus the work is adapted for use in the dairy or brewery as well as in the pathological laboratory. The first portion includes detailed descriptions of the necessary glass apparatus, microscopes, incubators, the principles of sterilization, and general examination of bacteria and other micro-fungi.

Bacterial stains and the preparation of nutrient media are fully