

## REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

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DIE PERMANENTE EXTENSIONS BEHANDLUNG. DIE SUBCUTANEN UND COMPLICIRTEN FRACTUREN UND LUXATINEN DER EXTREMITATEN UND IHRE FOLGEN. VON Prof. Dr. BARDENHEUER. Stuttgart, Ferd. Enke. 1889. New York, G. E. Stechert.

THE USES OF PERMANENT EXTENSION. SUBCUTANEOUS AND COMPOUND FRACTURES AND DISLOCATIONS OF THE EXTREMITIES AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES.

But a short time ago the voluminous work by the same author, entitled "The Injuries of the Upper Extremity," being the 63d vol. of the "Deutsche Chirurgie" of Lücke and Billroth, was noticed in this journal; and it was there mentioned that the author was much in favor of extension by weights as a treatment of certain injuries which were not generally so treated. In the present volume he passes in review all the fractures and dislocations, with special consideration of the treatment; and for almost all injuries mentioned he has devised a method of treatment by permanent extension. This forms the second or special part of the work. The first part deals with statistics, the general anatomy and pathology, general symptomatology, general diagnosis and treatment of fractures and dislocations.

For six years the author has occupied himself in improving the technique of, and extending the indications for, the method of permanent extension. He was led to generalise the treatment by extension by the excellent results gained in fractures of the femur, by combining the simple longitudinal extension (Buck's extension) with the action of weights attached laterally to the fractured limb, and having for their object the correction of lateral displacements, as well as of rotation, etc. During this time new points of view were continually added, as bones and joints other than the thigh were so treated, and all the improvements suggested by increasing experience are now embodied in the present work, which is, consequently, quite voluminous (810 pages,

large 8vo). Over 200 illustrations facilitate the explanation of the author's intentions.

It affects the reader with some surprise to view the manifold methods adopted by the author to achieve better results than by the usual methods employed for injuries of the extremities. But after reading what advantages the author claims for his methods, he feels inclined to put them to the test, in spite of the increased trouble and vigilance called for on the part of the surgeon, and the necessity of remaining in bed on the part of the patient, not to speak of the painfulness of the procedure in some cases. Although the wisdom of pushing one idea too far may be questioned, the thoroughness and carefulness of the work done, together with the renown of the author, combine to give the book a first place among others on the same subject.

VERGLEICHENDE BEURTHEILUNG DER VERSCHIEDENUEN METHODEN DES STEINSCHMITTS BEI MANNERN. von Dr. JOSEPH SMITS. Tübingen, Franz Pietzcker. 1888. New York, G. E. Stechert.

#### CRITICAL COMPARISON OF THE VARIOUS METHODS OF LITHOTOMY IN THE MALE.

This pamphlet of 88 pages owes its origin to the dissertation of the author on the same subject, and gives a description and comparative estimate of all the methods used for the operation for stone.

A very complete list of the literature of the subject precedes the text. A short chapter is devoted to the general history of lithotomy, the history of each special operation being given under the various special headings. Descriptions of the operations are given in full, with the experiences and views of various operators upon them. Statistics are given, showing the relative value of each operation. Occasionally notes of unique cases are introduced. The last chapters are devoted to comparison between the methods. It need hardly be stated that the author's conclusions are in favor of the *sectio alta*, and of this operation being performed in two sittings.

Altogether, the pamphlet bears ample evidence not only of diligent and faithful reading, extended to a much wider range of literature than is usually found among German writers, but of a clear comprehension of the salient points of the questions discussed.

W. W. VAN ARSDALE.