

Papers for the Surgical Section.

SOUTH BETHLEHEM, PA., Dec. 18, 1895.

To the Editor:—As Secretary of the Surgical Section of the Association, I am now engaged in arranging a program for the Atlanta meeting. We have selected "The Surgery of the Cerebro-spinal Axis and its Bony Encasement," as the special subject for discussion. I am anxious to obtain as full and as representative a discussion on this important subject as practicable. Will you permit me through the JOURNAL to call the attention of our surgical members to this subject, and to request from them a liberal contribution of papers, and careful preparation for discussing the subject. Besides this special subject there will be room on the program for papers on other subjects. I solicit the active assistance and contribution of the members. Members who desire to contribute papers to the Surgical Section will please notify me and send the title of their papers to me as soon as practicable.

Very truly yours,

W. L. ESTES.

International Scientific Language.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21, 1895.

To the Editor:—I have read with great interest your address on "The International Scientific Language" in the JOURNAL of this date. The position taken with regard to French seems to be good although as a matter of fact, Spanish is an easier language even than French, and is now used by a greater number of people than any other language excepting English.

Would it not be well, as a means of familiarizing the profession at large, in this country, with one of these languages, to have a page or two of the contents of the JOURNAL, each week in the proposed International language?

Very truly yours,

W. S. CHRISTOPHER.

BOOK NOTICES.

State Charities Aid Association of New York. HANDBOOK FOR HOSPITALS. By ABBY HOWLAND WOOLSEY. Third Edition. 12mo, pp. 267. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons; Chicago: The W. T. Keener Co. 1895.

The first edition of this Handbook was published by the Association in 1877 and the second edition in 1883. No recent work having been found that would supply its place, the managers of the Association appointed a committee to revise it, Miss Woolsey having died since the appearance of the edition of 1883.

This committee consisted of Drs. Charles Hitchcock, George G. Wheelock and W. Gill Wylie.

"Not often," say the committee, "has a work so easy or so grateful been assigned to any committee. Twelve years have elapsed since the publication was last revised by the author, and yet the work done was so thorough, the personal knowledge of the subject so exceptional, and the standard of excellence so high that, beyond the bringing of statistics up to date, and the addition of some footnotes to show the advance, within a very few years, of hygienic requirements, there were but few alterations to be made."

We have been familiar with the former editions of the book, and we concur in the opinion of the committee that "every commissioner of charities and superintendent of the poor, every superintendent of a hospital, will welcome the many practical suggestions to be found in this volume. It should be in the hands of all visitors to hospitals and other charitable institutions and on the shelves of every library in this country."

Twenty-Sixth Annual Report of the State Board of Health of Massachusetts. 8vo, paper, pp. 892. Boston: 1895.

The reports of the Massachusetts State Board of Health are without doubt the most valuable sanitary publications in the country, and they afford not only an object lesson for other State Boards, but they demonstrate the enlightened

character of the legislation under which they are produced. In another column we refer to one important inquiry in which the Board has been engaged, but it would be quite within bounds to say that within the pages of the twenty-six volumes are included luminous discussions of nearly every topic of hygiene that is of interest to the municipal sanitarian. The present volume is of exceptional interest.

Practical Urinalysis and Urinary Diagnosis: A MANUAL FOR THE USE OF PHYSICIANS, SURGEONS, AND STUDENTS. By CHARLES W. PURDY, M.D., Queen's University; Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Kingston; Professor of Urology and Urinary Diagnosis at the Chicago Post-Graduate Medical School. Author of "Bright's Disease and Allied Affections of the Kidneys"; also of "Diabetes: Its Causes, Symptoms, and Treatment." Second revised edition. With numerous illustrations, including Photo-Engravings and Colored Plates. In one crown octavo volume, 360 pages, in extra cloth, \$2.50 net. Philadelphia: The F. A. Davis Co., Publishers, 1914 and 1916 Cherry Street. Chicago office, Lakeside Building.

In our notice of the first edition of this work (Nov. 24, 1894, p. 805) we said, "To the practitioner and as well to the clinician, this book must prove invaluable for the extent of information contained in its pages, and its practical character."

The author has "corrected all discovered errors" in the first edition, has revised it and has added several illustrations. The early call for a new edition is a tribute to its scientific accuracy, and we congratulate the author on the merited appreciation of the book by the profession.

Pregnancy, Labor and the Puerperal State. By EGBERT H. GRANDIN, M.D., Consulting surgeon to the New York Maternity Hospital; Consulting Gynecologist to the French Hospital, New York, etc.; and GEORGE W. JARMAN, M.D., Obstetric Surgeon to the New York Maternity Hospital; Gynecologist to the Cancer Hospital, New York, etc. Illustrated with forty-one original full-page photographic plates from nature. Royal octavo, pages viii, 261. Cloth, \$2.50 net. Philadelphia: The F. A. Davis Co., Publishers, 1914 and 1916 Cherry Street. Chicago office, Lakeside Building.

This work, say the authors in the preface, aims at being a guide to practice and is clinical in its teaching. There are three parts, of which one is given to pregnancy, containing three chapters; the second to labor, containing four chapters; and the third, on the puerperal state, is disposed of in two chapters. The photographs are excellent and the text instructive. It is a faithful representation of the modern practice of obstetrics.

Ohio State Medical Society.—Transactions of the Semi-Centennial meeting held at Columbus, May 15, 16 and 17, 1895.

This volume shows that the society is keeping up to its usual high standard of work. There are valuable papers on diphtheria, influenza, autopsies, intestinal surgery, typhoid fever, leprosy, and these papers are discussed in an able manner. Appended is a copy of the Mosworth Bill to regulate the practice of medicine, which the society indorsed, and which has also received the indorsement of the Ohio State Eclectic Society and the Ohio State Homeopathic Medical Society. The whole profession is in support of this bill, and as there are eighty physicians in the House of Representatives, it is confidently expected the bill will become a law. The society is to be congratulated on its good work, its vigorous life at 50 years and its chances for the future.

Lectures on Appendicitis AND NOTES ON OTHER SUBJECTS. By ROBERT T. MORRIS, A.M., M.D. Illustrated. 8vo, cloth, pp. 163. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1895.

The first eighty-three pages of this book are given up to the lectures on appendicitis, and the remainder to notes on various surgical topics, mainly reports of interesting cases. They all show excellent surgery. The illustrations of the vermiform appendix in the first section of the work could not well be improved upon.

Announcements.

"The College and Clinical Record" will be hereafter known under the name of *Dunglison's College and Clinical Record*, a Monthly Record of Practical Medicine."