

BOOK REVIEWS

HUMAN ANATOMY, INCLUDING STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT, AND PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS. By THOMAS DWIGHT, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Anatomy in Harvard University; J. PLAYFAIR McMURRICH, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Anatomy in the University of Michigan; CARL A. HAMANN, M.D., Professor of Anatomy in the Western Reserve University; GEORGE E. PIERSOL, M.D., Professor of Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania; and J WILLIAM WHITE, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Surgery in the University of Pennsylvania. With 1734 illustrations, of which 1522 are original and largely from dissections by JOHN C. HEISLER, Professor of Anatomy in the Medico-Chirurgical College, Philadelphia. Edited by GEORGE A. PIERSOL. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and London. 1907.

To the students of anatomy, this new treatise edited by George A. Piersol, Professor of Anatomy in the University of Pennsylvania, will be welcome. The works of Gray and Morris and Quain have for many years been preëminent, but it is probable that this new treatise, which is the most complete that has yet appeared in the English language, will replace these other works, especially in the medical schools throughout the United States. The book presents the essential facts of human anatomy regarded in its broadest sense, and is most extensively illustrated in such a way as to elucidate very clearly the subject matter. Dr. Thomas Dwight has written the description of the skeleton including the joints, of the gastro-pulmonary system and of the accessory organs of nutrition. Dr. Carl A. Hamann has written the section on the cerebro-spinal and sympathetic nerves. Dr. J. Playfair McMurrich, who is without question one of the foremost anatomists of this country, describes the muscular, the blood and the lymph-vascular systems. No one who has studied under Professor McMurrich could doubt his ability to present this subject most thoroughly; system, conciseness, accuracy, characterize his descriptions. The illustrations of this part of

the book are exceptionally good and are well-chosen. The relation of the bones to the muscular system has been well worked out. Most of the recent text books describe the bones without showing graphically the points of attachment of the muscles to the bones, but to the student the conformation of a bone means nothing unless there is associated with it something attached to it or in relation to it; this point has been appreciated by the authors and in all of the illustrations of the bones, the points of attachments of the muscles to them have been outlined in red. It would have been better still had the name of the muscle been printed upon the area of attachment of the muscle, instead of using a line with the name printed in the margin. The vascular system is carefully described, and its embryology, histology and the composition and development of the blood constituents are all faithfully detailed. Considerable space is given to a description of the heart, and the practical anatomical considerations concerning it. Dr. Piersol has written the introductory, histological and embryological paragraphs throughout the work, and has contributed the descriptions of the central nervous system and the deep relations of the cranial nerves, especially the uro-genital system. It is needless to say that his work has been thoroughly done.

As surgical work has advanced, so have the demands for more accurate knowledge and teaching in the relation of the organs and tissues of the body to each other, and a more adequate consideration of the practical applications of anatomy; that is, the association of anatomical facts with those conditions resulting from injury and disease. Dr. J. William White has undertaken this department of the work, and his experience as a surgeon and as a teacher of surgery has enabled him to do it most thoroughly; he shows the practical relationship between surgery and anatomy. This feature occupies quite a distinct place in the book and adds greatly to its value. The field of operative surgery is in no way covered, although brief descriptions of operative methods have been given in some instances, and it shows the student the importance of a thorough understanding of anatomy before the surgical treatment of any condition can be undertaken. The many new and exact illustrations are important features of the book. Some of the anatomical text books which have been published in recent years have borrowed

their illustrations from other books and in so doing have lost their originality and therefore their value. The present publication is by far the best work on Human Anatomy, by American authors, that has yet appeared.

PAUL PILCHER.

SURGICAL DIAGNOSIS. By DANIEL N. EISENDRATH, M.D., Adjunct Professor of Surgery in the Medical Department of the University of Illinois (College of Physicians and Surgeons). Octavo of 775 pages, with 482 original illustrations, 15 in colors. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1907.

Dr. Eisendrath has set for himself a most difficult task. As Killaini has said: "There can be only one diagnosis, *i.e.*, the true scientific diagnosis in medicine. Surgery has to do only with the treatment." It is the conditions, then, that demand surgical treatment which must be included in any work on surgical diagnosis. Another reviewer of this volume has asked the question: "Why did Eisendrath write this book?" There is hardly any branch of the science of medicine which needs more light thrown upon it, more study devoted to it, than this subject of surgical diagnosis, which has been most shamefully neglected in the writings of authors. Foreign surgeons have produced one or two small treatises on this subject, but they have been most childish in their incompleteness.

Dr. Eisendrath has chosen to treat the subject of surgical diagnosis chiefly from the clinical standpoint; that means that he has omitted almost entirely the pathological side of the question, which is daily gaining more and more importance in the establishment of any diagnosis. In discussing each disease it would seem to the reviewer that the symptoms, complications and sequelæ have not been carefully and clearly enough dwelt upon, to render the recognition of the disease unmistakable; oftentimes the differential diagnosis is more fully considered without enough care being taken in describing the direct diagnosis.

There are eight chapters in all. The first chapter considers the surgical affections of the head; the various injuries and diseases of the scalp, skull and brains are considered together, and from the clinical aspect this is a very logical arrangement. This section of chapter I is by far the most interesting and thor-