

comfort of the patient. They kept him comfortable and he got well. Their highest authority was *common sense*. As one old teacher expressed it: "Common Sense was the God of Medicine." On the same principle the old Southern doctor, though he believed in reducing the temperature of typhoid fever by bathing, utterly rejected the Brandt bath—an ice-

water plunge, as first introduced. But that is another story.

To read Dr. Willson's article in the A. M. A. Journal causes one to shudder at the thought of so many lives being sacrificed at the behest of *authority*. It suggests a paraphrase of the celebrated apostrophe to "Liberty and the crimes committed in its name."

BOOK REVIEWS

Operative Surgery.

By John J. McGrath, M.D., Clinical Professor of Surgery, Fordman University; Professor of Operative Surgery, New York Post-Graduate Medical School; Consulting Surgeon to the People's Hospital; Visiting Surgeon to the Harlem and New York Foundling Hospitals; Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine; Member of the American Medical Association. 538 pages with 264 illustrations. F. A. Davis Co., Philadelphia. Price, \$6.00.

Over 100 pages are devoted to abdominal surgery with accurate detailed description of those operations which are usually of the nature of emergency cases, such as appendicitis, strangulated hernia, anastomosis of intestines, closure of perforations from typhoid ulcers and gunshot wounds, and operations upon the liver, gall bladder, pancreas and spleen. The cuts and illustrations throughout the book are timely and remarkable for their clearness. The reputation of the author and the fact that the fourth edition has been issued is sufficient recommendation.

The Clinics of John B. Murphy, M.D., Volume III, Number 3.

The Clinics of John B. Murphy, M.D., at Mercy Hospital, Chicago. Volume III, Number 3. Octavo of 215 pages, 54 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1914. Published bi-monthly. Price per year, paper, \$5.00; cloth, \$12.00.

The June number of this well known and valuable periodical publication has "Talks" by Professor Murphy of unusual interest upon surgical and general diagnosis, and upon tenoplasty, neuroplasty and arthroplasty, as well as upon fractures, dislocations, carcinoma, osteoma and perforating ulcer of the stomach.

The Ready Reference Hand-book of Diseases of the Skin.

By George Thomas Jackson, M.D., Professor of Dermatology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Medical Department of Columbia University, New York. Seventh edition, thoroughly revised. 12 mo. 770 pages, with 115 engravings and 6 colored plates. Cloth, \$3.00, net. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1914.

This work has very deservedly attained to splen-

did success. It is easy of access for the dermatologist and ideal for the busy practitioner. It is clear and easily understood, and the illustrations and colored plates beautifully show the various lesions. The anatomy, physiology, and diagnosis are taken up in the opening sections; this is followed by notes on therapeutics and classification tables. Then come the individual diseases with the special treatment of each. This makes the book practical in all its details. New articles are included on vaccines, salvarsan, and the use of X-rays.

Local Anesthesia: Its Scientific Basis and Practical Use.

By Professor Dr. Heinrich Braun, Obermedizinalrat and Director of the Kgl. Hospital at Zwickau, Germany. Translated and edited by Percy Shields, M.D., A.C.S., Cincinnati, Ohio, from the third revised German edition. Octavo, 399 pages, with 215 illustrations in black and color. Cloth, \$4.25, net. Lea & Febiger, Publishers, Philadelphia and New York, 1914.

The author is no doubt one of the greatest authorities on local anesthesia, and he has done much to advance and perfect the technique of local anesthesia, thereby rendering possible a much larger field for this kind of surgery. In this volume the theories and ideas are systematized and practical procedures submitted. Illustrations and descriptions of operations with photographs of same render possible the actual practice of the methods described. The author has been ably assisted by specialists, and the sum total of local anesthesia is offered for the consideration of the reader.

Practical Therapeutics.

With especial reference to the application of remedial measures to disease and their employment upon a rational basis. By Hobart Amory Hare, M.D., B. Sc., Professor of Therapeutics, Materia Medica and Diagnosis in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. New (15th) edition, thoroughly revised and rewritten. Octavo, 998 pages, with 144 engravings and 1 plates. Cloth, \$4.00 net. Lea & Febiger, publishers, Philadelphia and New York, 1914.

Hare's Therapeutics needs no introduction since it is a work which has been standard for so many years, but this 15th edition needs to have special