

BOOK REVIEWS

Profession of America should be grateful to Doctor Smith for having left this record of a development in which he might very properly say, "*Magna pars fui.*"

The articles on the Sympathetic Nervous System, upon Syphilis, upon the Thyroid Gland, and the Tonsils, are especially worthy of surgical note.

LEWIS S. PILCHER.

ABSTRACTS OF THE MEDICINE AND SURGERY OF THE WAR. A collection of articles by specialists working at the large base hospitals at the front, most of which have appeared from time to time in various medical journals. These short monographs are designed to allow the practitioner to keep abreast of the rapid strides made in both medicine and surgery in special lines in the Ambulance Hospitals, Base Hospitals and laboratories of the army. Published by Masson & Cie, Paris.

WOUNDS OF THE SKULL AND BRAIN, by C. CHATELIN and T. DE MARTEL, with a preface by Professor Pierre Marie, has recently been published in this Collection. There are 272 pages of text with 97 illustrations. Part I is upon Wounds of the Brain, by Doctor Chatelin, a neurologist, and is based upon his experience with 5000 patients examined and treated in the clinic of Professor Pierre Marie at the Salpêtrière. Part II is upon the surgical aspects of Wounds of the Skull, by Dr. T. De Martel, also an associate of Professor Pierre Marie at Salpêtrière. Many new points both in diagnosis and treatment are elaborated, and the details of the new operative technic and new instruments are fully illustrated.

In this series also has recently appeared a monograph upon **FRACTURES OF THE LOWER JAW**, by Professor LEON IMBERT and Dr. PIERRE REAL, with a preface by Dr. Ch. Fevier, Medical Inspector General. There are 151 pages, including 97 illustrations and five plate reproductions. Professor Imbert, from the Medical School of Marseille, in collaboration with Doctor Real, Dental Surgeon to the hospitals of Paris, presents the special subject of Fractures of the Lower Jaw in six chapters, covering the etiology, pathological anatomy, diagnosis and symptoms, prosthetic treatment, surgical treatment, and prognosis and end results. The illustrations are numerous.

FRACTURES OF THE ORBIT, by Professor FELIX LAGRANGE, belongs in this new series. There are 222 pages of text, with 77 illustrations and 6 reproductions of plates. This monograph presents the anatomy, types of fractures most common, with the modes of treatment and results. Unlike the two preceding articles, this is mainly a series of case histories illustrating the points of treatment and results obtained.

THE TREATMENT AND RESTORATION OF LESIONS OF THE NERVES, by Madame ATHANASSIO-BENISTY, interne of the Paris Hospitals, with a preface by Professor Pierre Marie, is the second volume upon the subject of nerve lesions by this author, the first volume being entitled *Clinical Forms of Nerve Lesions*. The present volume includes 178 pages of text with 62 illustrations and four pages of plate reproductions. The subject matter

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is concerned with macroscopical and microscopical lesions of the nerves, voluntary restoration of function, electrotherapy, surgical treatment, physiotherapy, orthopaedic apparatus, and symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of various types of paralysis.

A TREATISE ON REGIONAL SURGERY. By various authors, edited by JOHN FAIRBAIRN BINNIE, A.M., C.M., F.A.C.S., Kansas City, Missouri. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co.

The aim of this work is to present short monographs on the injuries and diseases of the different regions of the body. Volume one is written by thirteen different authors. It is stated in the announcement of volume one that there will be chapters upon the Head, the Branchial System, the Thorax and the Breast; and in volume two there will be chapters upon the Abdomen, the Genito-urinary System, and the Spine; and in volume three there will be chapters upon the Upper Extremity and the Lower Extremity. The first two volumes have appeared from the printer.

In so extensive a book, a summary of nearly all of surgery, it is extremely difficult to contribute in a brief book review a clear picture of what each author has covered in the subject assigned. Moreover, it is extremely difficult to form constructive criticism where such a large number of subjects appear in so small a space. Obviously in such a compendium of surgery, even though the separate chapters are pretty complete monographs of the subject in question, there must be a great variation in the quality of the work presented.

It would be aside the mark to criticise the wisdom of undertaking such a tremendous task as the editing of volumes of this sort. Dr. Binnie has chosen for the most part representative men as authors and each one has presented the subject entrusted to him in the form that appealed to him as most attractive.

The chapters in the first volume that deserve especial mention as being particularly well done are those by Joseph Bloodgood upon the Female Breast, and Samuel Robinson upon the Surgery of the Heart, Pericardium and Diaphragm. The three chapters by Charles H. Mayo upon the Thyroid, the Parathyroids, and the Thymus are written and illustrated in an authoritative manner. The chapter by J. E. Thompson upon Inflammatory Infections of the Neck is well done and introduces a new subject in a systematic surgery. J. E. Summers presents the subject of Injuries and Diseases of the Face and Jaw in a simple and instructive fashion.

Volume two, which covers the Abdomen, the Genito-urinary System, and the Spine, is as a whole better done than volume one. There are chapters upon diseases of the abdominal wall, hernia, the stomach and small intestines, the vermiform appendix, the large intestines, intestinal obstruction, the peritoneum and omentum, the rectum and anus, the liver, the pancreas, the spleen, the kidney and ureter, the bladder, the prostate, the external male genitalia, affections of the spinal column, and diseases of the spinal cord.

In glancing through the chapters of the second volume I am very much