

Dr. Warren operated by an incision through the integuments in the linea alba, beginning three inches below the umbilicus and extending downward four inches. Subjacent muscles then carefully divided and the peritoneum opened, exposing the surface of the tumor to view. An attempt now made to reduce the size of the tumor by puncturing it with a trochar and canula. No fluid followed. It was found necessary to enlarge the incision upwards above the umbilicus. Tumor was then brought through the wound without difficulty, as it adhered only at its base. A strong cord was then tied firmly around the neck of the tumor, great care being taken to avoid including any of the intestines and to diminish the loss of blood. On cutting partly through the neck, the divided parts were found to retract, by reason of which the ligature was loosened. Another was accordingly passed around the undivided portion of the tumor, and it was then completely removed. Attempts were then made to stop the flow of blood, and several arteries were tied. After this object had been nearly or quite accomplished, the patient was found to be quite faint. Cold water was dashed upon her face, and brandy and water poured down her throat. Brisk friction of her limbs and application of blankets dipped in warm water were also made. The patient not reviving, artificial respiration was kept up for some time by inflating the lungs with a pair of bellows. The stomach-pump was then brought, and half a pint of hot brandy thrown into the stomach; but all these attempts proved fruitless, and the patient was finally given up for dead.

One of the popular methods of treating sore eyes among the public at that time was to apply a *frog that had been broiled alive in a pound of butter*. A patient entered who had found this a valuable remedy; but in spite of its efficacy he was unable to open his eyes without force.

Amputation of the thigh, May 25, 1839. "Patient had one hundred drops of laudanum. He thinks that he did not feel the opium until after the operation."

Tumor of the tongue. Tumor being grasped by double hooks, it was removed by one stroke of the scalpel. Hemorrhage considerable; not being controlled by ligature, the actual cautery was applied. At 4 p. m., another hemorrhage; compression by sponges. At 5 p. m., another hemorrhage, controlled by sponge.

During an enucleation the eye was grasped by the forceps in the same way.

Removal of tongue. Tongue being protruded, it was seized with a long-bladed polypus forceps, transversely behind tumor, and firmly compressed. Tumor then being seized between the left thumb and forefinger of the operator, a straight, sharp-pointed bistoury was passed across behind tumor through the healthy portion of the tongue, and the two lingual arteries secured by ligatures. Little blood was lost. Patient bore the operation with great fortitude.

An extensive, malignant, ulcerating growth involving the labia, nymphæ, clitoris and urethra in a woman of twenty-nine years. A careful dissection was made of the whole ulcerating surface. Great pain and persistent syncope accompanied the protracted dissection.

A long story of agony and blood, to which man was born from earliest prehistoric time; the shadows of which were lightened by the results of brilliant operations that restored life, health and limbs to the dis-

abled and unfortunate, and by the opportunities for teaching the way of saving lives to others. So far as humanity could suggest remedies or the science of the times permit, pain was relieved. The terrors of the past, which had cast their gloom over hospitals and surgeons alike, restricting the natural growth of science, that held in its grasp the suffering and mortality of millions waiting for its beneficent protection, were dispersed and shorn of their sting by the light shining from this Temple of Health on October 16, 1846. That light has been reflected to the surgery of the whole world, comforting the sufferer, arming the surgeon, and illuminating the pathway of Science throughout the Universe of Pain.

"The heart of every American physician is filled with thankfulness when he remembers that, in the providence of God, this great boon to humanity was vouchsafed to this country. The very ground upon which stands the Massachusetts General Hospital is sacred to us all."⁶

Recent Literature.

Medical Jurisprudence, Forensic Medicine and Toxicology. By R. A. WITTHAUS, A.M. M.D., Professor of Chemistry, Physics and Hygiene in the University of the City of New York, etc., and TRACY C. BECKER, A.B., LL.B., Counsellor-at-Law and Professor of Criminal Law and Medical Jurisprudence in the University of Buffalo. With the aid of numerous collaborators. In four volumes. Vol. IV. New York: William Wood & Co.

In a notice of the first volume of this comprehensive work, the JOURNAL said that if the standard of excellence illustrated in that volume was continued in those to follow it, the two professions of law and medicine would have at their disposal an encyclopedic production of the highest character. And now that the final chapter has been written and the last volume of the series has come from the press, it gives us pleasure to declare that our early anticipations have been realized, to congratulate the editors and publishers upon the completion of their task, and to express a candid and cordial appreciation of the publication as the best treatise on Legal Medicine which is now available in the English language. In scope, in the intelligence shown in the treatment of the many topics, in the discrimination with which the latest advances in medico-legal knowledge have been used, these volumes represent a success of which their projectors may well be proud.

This fourth, and final, volume is devoted exclusively to Toxicology and is the sole work of Professor Witthaus. The same purpose dominates this book as has found expression in the three earlier volumes in the series, namely, to gather and present whatever, relating to the subject, was most useful to the two professions for which the whole work was designed. After an interesting review of the literature and history of poisoning, setting forth the indefensible manner in which royal personages and popes, as well as people of lower degree, have used poisons to rid themselves of uncongenial acquaintances, the author wrestles acceptably with the question, "What is a poison?" A considerable section is devoted to topics

⁶ Dr. W. W. Dawson: Life of Ephraim McDowell.

pertaining to general toxicology; and, finally, in special toxicology, the author gives full attention to the various known toxic agents, their chemistry, symptomatology, anatomical effects and detection in the tissues by analytical determination. The whole field of poisons is included, emphasis and prominence being bestowed on individuals in that class where these are justified.

Our space will not permit detailed mention, and we content ourselves with the general statement that the volume is a treasury of learning at which the seeker after help will find his drafts fully honored.

Skiascopy and its Practical Application to the Study of Refraction. By EDWARD JACKSON, A.M., M.D., Professor of Diseases of the Eye in the Philadelphia Polyclinic; Surgeon to Wills' Eye Hospital, Etc. Philadelphia: The Edwards & Docker Co.

The fact that the first edition of Dr. Edward Jackson's excellent monograph on "Skiascopy and its Practical Application to the Study of Refraction" was sold within the first year of its existence, bears witness to its popularity, and is the reason for the issue of a second edition. The changes that are noticed are slight, being mostly alterations in the phraseology, resulting in greater clearness of expression.

This valuable addition to the methods of objective diagnosis is treated in accordance with its importance, so that the careful reader must realize that skiascopy will be found of use only as its underlying principles are applied.

To those who have employed the "shadow-test" without a clear idea of the optical principles upon which it is based, this treatise may appear somewhat too diffuse; but whoever adopts the author's routine in examining, and becomes thoroughly acquainted with each step and the reason therefor, will not find any superfluous matter.

When beginning to study the tests it is advisable to start with known conditions of refraction, with lenses of known strength, and with the eye at a known distance, thus becoming familiar with the behavior of the light and shadow in the pupil under such conditions that in ametropia it will be possible to deduce from the pupillary appearances the state of the refraction which causes them. Great stress is laid upon the position of the light, and its most advantageous arrangement. The advantages and the disadvantages of the plane and concave mirror receive careful consideration, and explicit directions regarding the best manner of constructing the mirror are given. Other details, which in the author's wide experience would seem to him to be of value to the oculist or practitioner, have not been omitted.

It is truly a pleasure to be able to recommend so excellent a book upon so important a subject.

Water and Water-Supplies. By JOHN C. THRESH, D.Sc., M.B., D.P.H. London: The Rebman Publishing Co. 1896.

The main object of this book, as the author states, is "to place within the reach of all persons interested in public health the information requisite for forming an opinion as to whether any supply, or proposed supply, is sufficiently wholesome and abundant, and whether the cost can be considered reasonable."

This book contains twenty-three chapters, the first

seven being devoted to the different kinds of water and water-sources; these are followed by chapters upon impure water and its effect on health, interpretation of analyses, the self-purification of rivers, purification of water, domestic purification, the softening of hard-water, wells, pumps, pump machinery, water storage, distribution, etc.

The writer makes frequent reference to the experiments and investigations of the Massachusetts Board of Health, as a standard authority upon the subject.

This volume will be found to be a very useful manual for reference by young engineers, water-boards, superintendents and sanitary authorities.

The Tonic Treatment of Syphilis. By E. L. KEYES, A.M., M.D., Late Professor of Dermatology, Syphilology and Genito-Urinary Surgery in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College; Consulting Surgeon to the Bellevue Hospital. Revised edition. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1896.

While thoroughly believing that the curative power of mercury in syphilis is due to its specific action on the disease, and from time to time as the symptoms demand it must be pushed to the point of mercurialization, the writer has found that in addition to its specific action, mercury in small doses acts directly as a tonic, by increasing the number of red corpuscles in the blood. He has demonstrated the fact of this increase of the red corpuscles on numerous patients who have been under his treatment by small doses of mercury for long periods, by actual blood-count, and has found that coincidentally with the increase in the number of red blood-corpuscles, as shown by the hematometer, a marked improvement took place in the patient's general condition.

The iodides, also, he has found to possess a tonic action in addition to their antisiphilitic effects; but his experience coincides with the generally accepted view that they have very little effect on the disease in its earlier stages, being of use in the treatment of the gummatous tumors and chronic cutaneous affections of the later stages of the disease.

His plan of treatment is to give mercury up to the full dose until the earlier manifestations of the disease are controlled, and then to continue its administration in minute doses over long periods as a tonic.

The latter part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the details of the author's methods of treatment of the general and special manifestations of the disease. He does not consider it safe to suspend the mild mercurial course under two and a half years. Intramuscular injection is the method of administration of mercury to which he gives preference.

The book gives explicit directions for the treatment of the various stages and lesions of the disease, and is well fitted for a practical reference book for practitioners who may desire to inform themselves on the subject.

The Physician's Visiting List, 1897. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co.

We are glad to acknowledge the receipt of the above familiar visiting-list, now in the forty-sixth year of its publication. A better testimonial to its merits could hardly be given than its continued yearly appearance. We recommend the list to all general practitioners. They will find it suitable, and certainly most useful in the conduct of their daily practice.