

THE small size of this book renders it useful to medical students; yet it is not so condensed as to be valueless to the practitioner who desires a volume for ready reference. The bastard title, *Practical Surgery*, shown on the fly-leaf, does not seem to the reviewer to be in keeping with the full title of the book given by the author; for, although the work is a practical one, it deals with theoretical surgery as well. This third edition contains about one hundred pages more than the first edition, issued about four years ago.

The section on General Pathology of Surgical Diseases discusses, among other subjects, inflammation—its causes, results; and the relation of bacteria to surgical conditions. While this part of the book gives, perhaps, all the essential facts bearing upon the relation of bacteria to inflammation, yet the statements are obscured by the manner of their presentation. As a result of this defect the student would have great difficulty in thoroughly understanding and remembering the important facts presented, though a well-informed graduate would probably find all that is essential for him to know. A perusal of this portion of the book gives the impression that the author has added recent results and investigations to his previous manuscript without thoroughly incorporating the new with the old. Perhaps this is partly due to the conservatism of one who was trained under the old pathology. The retention of the terms "laudable" or "healthy" pus is an illustration of this defect. The author recommends treating sinuses by scraping, and other somewhat antiquated methods, with little or no mention of the preferable plan of dissecting them out and suturing the raw surfaces.

It is a fair criticism to say that the definitions are indefinite and scarcely satisfactory for use in teaching students. The articles touching on Surgical Pathology have excellent diagrammatic illustrations, which are especially intelligible and valuable. The articles treating of the Practice of Surgery seem clear, succinct, and satisfactory. It may indeed be said that the author has here compressed a great deal of valuable information into a small compass. This portion of the work is as good, probably, as can be found in any small text-book of surgery.

It is doubtful whether, in a work of this size on general surgery, the insertion of articles on diseases of the eye and of the ear are required, since such articles, when condensed, can scarcely give a true understanding of the principles and practice of these specialties. These sections have very wisely been assigned to the pens of specialists, who have acted as collaborators of the author.

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