

*Local and Regional Anesthesia.* With Chapters on Spinal, Epidural, Paravertebral, and Parasacral Analgesia, and on Other Applications of Local and Regional Anesthesia to the Surgery of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, and to Dental Practice. By CARROLL W. ALLEN, M.D., instructor in Clinical Surgery at the Tulane University of Louisiana, New Orleans; Lecturer and Instructor in Genito-Urinary and Rectal Diseases at the New Orleans Polyclinic; Visiting Surgeon to the Charity Hospital. With an Introduction by RUDOLPH MATAS, M.D., Professor of General and Clinical Surgery at the Tulane University of Louisiana, New Orleans, etc. Illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1914.

This is a well-printed book of 600 pages covering every portion of the field of local anesthesia. Under this head, as is apparent from the title, Dr. Allen includes chapters on spinal and sacral anesthesia.

This is the book of an enthusiast, who has much practical use of the methods he describes, and has covered the literature upon the subject in a most extraordinary manner. It is unfortunate, indeed, that his extensive bibliography is eliminated from the book, even for the excellent reason of avoiding undue bulk. The author has been successively a student, assistant and associate of that brilliant, untiring and original surgeon, Matas of New Orleans, who nearly two decades ago planned and actually began a book on this subject. It will be somewhat of a surprise to a good many young surgeons to discover that Matas was one of the greatest and earliest investigators of local anesthesia in this country. His name has usually been associated with entirely different branches of surgery. His introduction is interesting and contains a brief summary of the various and unusual procedures which he carried out in those early years. Dr. Allen most enthusiastically credits his teacher with not a few of the great advances made in the early days of local anesthesia.

The book is composed of twenty-three chapters, beginning with history; then follows consideration of nerves and their sensations; osmosis and diffusion; various anesthetics; their dangers; technic; indications; and a detailed description of the methods in use upon the various anatomical areas of the body. As already noted, spinal, epidural, paravertebral, parasacral anesthesia, and the anesthesia of the organs of special sense and the teeth, are included in the single volume. The author quotes freely from Braun, to whom he makes special acknowledgment. The book is marked by that thoroughness which it is customary at present to describe as German, and fortunately lacks the unnecessary prolixity of many German treatises.

It is superfluous to comment on the fact that the field of local anesthesia is limited at present only by infancy, and by the surgeon. There are few operations indeed which have not been successfully carried out under local anesthesia. It certainly does require perseverance and precise anatomical knowledge, but it is worthy of more general attention than has yet been paid to it in America. The book seems admirable and is unhesitatingly recommended.

*The Gold-Headed Cane.* BY WILLIAM MACMICHAEL, M.D. New York: Paul B. Hoeber. 1915.

This new American edition opportunely recalls to general professional familiarity a classic collection of medical essays written with the charm of a century ago and based on the story of the gold-headed cane carried successively by Drs. Radcliffe, Mead, Askew, Pitcairn and Bailey, whose biographies, as supposedly told by the cane, compose the substance of the book. The cane in question was deposited by the widow of its last possessor in the new college of physicians of London in 1825. Dr. Macmichael's felicitous exposition of its history was first published in 1827 and a second edition appeared the following year. In 1884 was published a third edition, in which the editor, Dr. William Munk, wrote a continuation of the narrative in excellent imitation of Macmichael's style, bringing the story down to the year 1871. This present fourth edition follows the text and illustrations of the second and represents the work as left in finished form by the author. In a charming preface, Dr. Francis R. Packard of Philadelphia sketches the life of Macmichael and the history of his work and of the cane. Sir William Osler in his introduction briefly comments on the lives of the cane's possessors and points out that this fourth edition is published as a memorial to Dr. Radcliffe on the two hundredth anniversary of his death. A wholesome interest in the history of medicine and of its famous men is being fostered in these days as a desirable counteracting agent to the excessive scientific tendencies of the time, and few works could form a more appropriate introduction to such a study than this story of the lives of five of the more eminent British practitioners of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

*Transactions of the American Climatological and Clinical Association.* VOL. 30. Philadelphia. 1914.

This volume records the proceedings of the American Climatological Association at its thirty-first annual meeting in Atlantic City, N. J., in June, 1914. It includes the president's address by Dr. J. M. Anders of Philadelphia, and a series of 23 papers presented at the ses-

sions of the meeting. Among these may be noted those by Dr. Edward O. Otis on "Unsolved and Debatable Problems in Tuberculosis;" by Dr. Arthur K. Stone on "Subnormal Temperature in Tuberculosis;" by Dr. Cleveland Floyd on "The Interrelationship of Pleurisy and Empyema;" by Dr. Guy Hinsdale on "Atmospheric Air in Relation to Tuberculosis;" and by Dr. Nathaniel K. Wood on "Percussion of the Lungs." Many of the articles are well and abundantly illustrated by attractive, full-page plates.

*Infection and Immunity. A Textbook of Immunology and Serology for Students and Practitioners.* BY CHARLES E. SIMON, B.A., M.D., Professor of Clinical Pathology and Experimental Medicine, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore. Third edition, 8vo, 351 pp., illustrated. Philadelphia and New York. Lea & Febiger. 1915.

The reviewer has had occasion to express his appreciation of an earlier edition of this work. The author has achieved his purpose in presenting a lucid and easily readable exposition of the subject of "Immunology and Serology." Practical applications are given with sufficient detail and clearness and are satisfactorily illustrated. The work is without undue pretense and contains an adequate bibliography appended to each chapter. It is to be particularly recommended for students and beginners in laboratory methods.

*Materia Medica and Therapeutics.* BY LYNETTE A. PARKER, B.Sc., R.N., Instructor in Nursing and Health, Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York. Philadelphia and New York: Lea & Febiger. 1915.

This textbook for nurses aims to present the use of drugs from a scientific basis and an effort has been made to give only the important and practical points which form a foundation for the intelligent handling of drugs but not for their prescription. Detailed descriptions of the physical properties of the drugs have in many cases been omitted. After a series of initial chapters on weights and measures, solutions, pharmaceutical preparations, definitions, history, administration of medicines, toxicology, acids and alkalies, salts and the active principles of medicinal plants, the principal drugs of the pharmacopœia are considered in groups according to their action on various anatomic and physiologic systems and functions of the body. There are also chapters on prescriptions, on habit-forming drugs and on psychotherapy, hydrotherapy, electrotherapy, serotherapy and radiotherapy. A large amount of useful and available information is thus made accessible to

nurses within the relatively brief space of 300 pages. The work is well illustrated with 29 engravings and three attractive colored plates. It presents a rather dry subject in interesting and original form.

*Bodily Changes in Pain, Hunger, Fear and Rage.* BY WALTER B. CANNON, M.D., George Higginson Professor of Physiology in Harvard University. New York and London: D. Appleton & Co.

In this monograph the author presents an account of his recent researches into the function of emotional excitement, with especial regard to the four primitive human and animal experiences of fear, rage, pain and hunger. These investigations into the bodily changes occurring in conjunction with these emotions have been conducted during the past four years at the Harvard physiological laboratory and there has been discovered a group of remarkable alterations in the bodily economy associated with the emotions, which may reasonably be regarded as physiological adaptations and responses nicely adapted to the individual's welfare and preservation. The present volume recording these experiments and their interpretation may be regarded as the elaboration and outgrowth of the author's earlier period of researches on the motor activities and alimentary canal, which appeared in his important volume on "The Mechanical Factors of Digestion," in the series of International Medical Monographs, which was reviewed in the issue of the JOURNAL for April 11, 1912 (vol. clxvi, p. 564). The present work deals not merely with the effect of the emotions on digestion, but with the general organization of the visceral nerves concerned with the emotions, the relation of adrenal secretion and of carbohydrate metabolism to the emotions, the utility of the bodily changes produced by pain, the energizing influence of emotional excitement, the nature of hunger and the interrelation of the emotions. Of particular contemporary interest is the final chapter on alternative satisfactions for the fighting emotions, in which the author recognizes the fighting instinct as fundamental in mankind, and speculates on the possibility of the substitution for it, or rather, to employ the Freudian phrase, its sublimation into some form of the athletic instinct, which should afford a safe outlet for physical energy and gratification of the desire for conflict.

Each chapter closes with a brief bibliography on the subject which it considers and at the conclusion of the volume is a list of 20 published researches from the physiological laboratory in Harvard University on which the present account is based. Like its predecessor, this volume of Dr. Cannon's is to be regarded as deserving the highest praise as a valuable, original experimental contribution to the knowledge of the physiology of the emotions.