

steps of his father, having studied medicine, and being now in full practice, with a predilection for surgery.

Dr. May's funeral took place from St. Paul's Church, Twenty-third street, and was largely attended by the profession, private citizens and former friends of the Doctor's. The Rev. Dr. Harding conducted the Episcopal services. The remains of Dr. May, followed by a large cortege, were placed in Rock Creek Cemetery.

J. M. T.

BOOK REVIEWS.

PRACTICAL PATHOLOGY AND MORBID HISTOLOGY. By HENEAGE GIBBES, M.D., Professor of Pathology in the University of Michigan, etc. Pp. 320, cloth, 8vo. Philadelphia: Lea Bros. & Co. 1891.

In the olden times, instead of writing a preface, the author wrote an "apology" for having written a book at all. One should now-a-days be very sure that there is need, when he undertakes to write a new book. Our author finds the need of a new book on the subject of which he treats, in the fact that photographic illustrations of actual appearances are needed to fill an existing gap in the domain of morbid histology; and the fact must be admitted that our monographs and text-books are filled with illustrations which are rather diagrammatic, than representative of an actual specimen. There is sufficient reason why this should be the case, and that is a pecuniary one. It has been pretty well demonstrated that, in the existing condition of the art of lithography and engraving, we cannot reproduce on ordinary paper, either faithful photographs or well worked out engravings; a higher class of paper must be used; this necessarily increases the cost of the book. The recognition of this fact has heretofore led publishers, both in Europe and America, to publish fine illustrations, when the character of the book required it, on separate sheets from those on which the text of the book was printed, and it may be safely said without successful contradiction, that the book under review affords abundant proof of the wisdom of the common practice. The publishers have endeavored to surmount the difficulty by printing the entire book on extra heavy paper, but a comparison of the illustrations will show that there is still lacking that quality which would bring out distinct tracings. Take, for instance, the illustration of spindle celled sarcoma on page 165, and it is impossible to resist the conclusion, either that the section was cut too thick, or that it was slightly out of focus when the photograph was taken. Photomicrographic negatives are notoriously difficult to reprint from, even with the most careful attention to details, owing to difficulties of illumination, and the fact that, as a rule, they are

made by amateur photographers and not by experts. A comparison of the illustrations in this work with those in Peyer's Atlas of Clinical Microscopy, will show very plainly the difference between photomicrographs reproduced in the book pages and those on separately printed boards. The book itself affords an excellent example of the difference in class and clearness, if one compares the beautiful plate in the frontispiece with the out-of-focus picture on page 177.

The text of the book, so far as it relates to morbid histology, is excellent, and fairly embodies the latest teachings; that with reference to the preparation of specimens, the use of the microscope and the laboratory technique is to be commended. The chapter on practical bacteriology is one of the best in the book, which as a whole compares favorably with others on the subject of which it treats.

COLLECTED CONTRIBUTIONS ON DIGESTION AND DIET, BY SIR WILLIAM ROBERTS, M.D., F.R.S. Philadelphia: Lea Bros. & Co. 1891.

This volume consists mainly of a reprint of the author's Lumbian Lectures on the "Digestive Ferments and Artificially Digested Food," and five lectures on "Dietetics and Dyspepsia" given at the Owens College in 1885. It also contains the other publications of the author on kindred subjects. The subject matter is divided into four sections:

1. Digestion, and the Digestive Ferments.
2. Dietetics.
3. Preparation of Food for Invalids.
4. Dyspepsia.

The section on Dietetics is replete with suggestions on practical points. It discusses many points which have been observed by the clinician, but have not yet reached the more exact physiologist. These ultra-physiological facts of digestion, are of the highest importance to the practitioner, if he be familiar with the facts of digestion as already determined by the physiologist and chemist. The book is in many respects one of the most satisfactory productions on the subjects of which it treats, that has appeared in recent years.

MEDICAL REGISTER OF NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY AND CONNECTICUT, 1891-1892. Published under the supervision of the New York Medico-Historical Society, Wm. T. White, M.D., editor. Vol. 29, press of G. P. Putnam's Sons. This is certainly the most complete physicians' register that has come into our hands. It contains the names of 7,854 physicians, of which there are in New York State, exclusive of New York city and Brooklyn, 3,65; New Jersey, 961; Connecticut, 611; New York city, 2,325; Brooklyn, 778. The increase over last year is 205. Not only does the register of physicians