

with severe injuries to the small intestines should be operated upon; though many will inevitably die under this treatment, some will be saved which would have died without operation.

*The Surgery of the Stomach.* A Handbook of Diagnosis and Treatment. By HERBERT J. PATERSON, M.A., M.C., M.B. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S., London. New and revised edition. With plates. New York: William Wood and Company. 1914.

The author explains that an extensive revision of his work is not called for, but that he has endeavored to profit by criticisms of the reviewers of the first edition. The chapter on the physiology of gastro-jejunosomy has been rewritten and a series of thirty x-ray plates added, photographed for use stereoscopically and reproduced in pairs. These and other minor changes increase the worth of an already valuable book. The author also presents a very interesting chapter on Appendicular Gastralgia, in which he endeavors to collate and systematize the knowledge of this interesting condition, in which a slightly chronic appendix causes gastric symptoms. In conclusion, he says, "No operation should be performed on the stomach, except when a definite organic lesion of the stomach or duodenum exists. Gastro-jejunosomy will not cure appendicitis. In all operations for supposed gastric or duodenal ulcer, the condition of the appendix should be investigated carefully." It is a pleasure to again recommend this excellent volume.

*Effects of Volcanic Action in the Production of Diseases and Atmospheric Vicissitudes.* By H. J. JOHNSTON-LAVIS, M.D., D.Ch., M.R.C.S., Eng., L.S.A., Lond., F.G.S. London: John Bale, Sons, and Danielsson, Ltd. 1914.

This monograph, which won the triennial Parkin prize of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, is an essay "on the effects of volcanic action in the production of epidemic diseases in the animal and in the vegetable creation, and in the production of hurricanes and abnormal atmospheric vicissitudes." Starting with the laudable motto that "science is the art of using common sense," the author, after a brief sketch of the physics and chemistry of eruption, and a discussion of some of its physical effects on human being and animals, examines a number of cases of its supposed relationship to epidemic diseases of man, animals, and plants, and comes to the rather obvious conclusion that this relation can be only indirect. Nor does he consider that any meteorologic phenomena of great importance can be attributed to eruptions. As an expert vulcanologist, he

may properly expect his results to be accepted without question, though it should seem that they were so self-evident to the enlightened mind as hardly to require demonstration.

*Letters to a Doctor and Others.* By a Lover of Truth and Justice. Printed for Private Circulation. London: Wyman and Sons. 1914.

This volume consists of one 60-page letter to a physician, signed "Verb. Serp."; one of 18 pages, also to a physician, signed "A Lover of Truth and Justice"; one brief letter to a friend, signed "Sympathy"; and two brief, unsigned, non-epistolary essays, entitled "Chaos of Opinions" and "Suicides and Inquests." The author was prevented from writing an intended last chapter on "Head Injuries, Shock, and Sunstroke." The whole is by way of a lay polemic against the medical profession, or certain members of it, for their treatment of neurasthenia by suggestion, which the author terms "a horrible system of meddling interference." He considers the use of sanatogen or adalin the best method of treating insomnia. Apparently the work is one chiefly of symptomatic interest.

*Atmospheric Air in Relation to Tuberculosis.* By GUY HINSDALE, A.M., M.D., Hot Springs, Virginia. Published by the Smithsonian Institution, 1914.

This volume of 135 pages is one of the two prize-winning essays among the 100 entered in competition under the terms of the Hodgkins Fund of the Smithsonian Institution. There are 93 most excellent plates. These plates alone give this treatise distinct value and make it a noteworthy contribution to the literature on tuberculosis. The title, "Atmospheric Air in Relation to Tuberculosis," is a misleading one. The book consists of a most excellent description of the treatment of all forms and phases of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis. It will prove of great value to every physician in looking up the climate of any resort to which he is considering sending some patient. It impresses the physician by its vivid description of Rollier's heliotherapy, with the wonderful results which can be obtained and are being obtained with this simple, inexpensive method of treatment. It discusses the relative values of high and low altitudes and moist and dry climates. The section devoted to open air schools and fresh air rooms is the latest word on this subject. Not only to physicians, but to nurses and to the general public will the little volume be of great service. It is to be hoped that it will be easily accessible to every one.

Dr. Hinsdale is to be congratulated upon the completion of such a high grade piece of work as this.