

Books for Study and Recreation

"COMMON SENSE IN THE NURSERY."

By Charles Burnett, M.A., Oxon.
(Certified Midwife by Examination.)

This little book has been sent to us for review. It is pleasing to receive a book written from a purely practical point of view by a practical woman. In the introduction the writer points out that her book corresponds to "the cookery book not yet written that will tell you how to fry an egg, how to make toast, and how to simmer a stew." The elementary things that every woman, certainly every nurse, ought to know are the subjects dealt with. It is truly a commonsense book and the many suggestions and advice given for the treatment and general bringing up of young children are sensible and should be useful to mothers who have not thought how easily, and how very early, a child is affected by the words and actions of the older people around him, and how very much happier a childhood he will have if proper obedience be instilled into him from the very first. In regard to the dietary of infants the writer has quoted largely from Dr. Truby King's publications, as well as from other authorities. The agents for the book in New Zealand are Messrs. E. J. Hicks and Co., 54 Victoria Street, Wellington.

"ATLAS OF NORMAL LABOUR."

(By G. Drummond Robinson, M.D.
and B.S., Lond. F.R.C.P.)

We have just received the above book and recommend it for the students of midwifery. The illustrations show most clearly the different stages of labour and the various presentations. The photographs are taken from an actual case of labour, and every movement of the descending foetus is shown in detail. The only omission which of course was inevitable in taking the photographs was the usual method of applying warm flannels

as soon as the breech is born. The treatment of asphyxia monotorum by both Sylvester's and Schultze's methods are very clearly shown.

"NOTES ON VENEREAL DISEASES."

This little booklet by Dr. Scharlieb gives a very complete synopsis of the facts connected with venereal diseases, especially as affecting the work of midwives and nurses. It is, of course, written primarily for Great Britain, where, as the writer points out, 75 per cent. of all the confinements are conducted by midwives who thus have a great influence over public opinion. Syphilis in infants is especially interesting and instructive to maternity nurses.

"LECTURES ON SURGERY TO NURSES."

(By Alan H. Todd, B.Sc., M.S.,
Lond., F.R.C.S., Eng.)

This book, published in 1920, has just been received in the Health Department's Library. It would be a very suitable addition to nurses' libraries in the training schools. The author states that the book is based upon the course of lectures on surgery he has given in recent years to the probationers at Grey's Hospital. It is not a manual of surgical nursing, as the author says: "the greater part of nursing properly so-called, cannot be learned from books at all." It is merely an attempt to give the nurses that insight into "the why and wherefore" of what the surgeon does and what the nurse is told to do, that will enable her to be an intelligent co-operator in everything that is done. He maintains that if she does not know exactly what she is driving at, she cannot possibly nurse intelligently, or get the best results.

The author's previous book, "Practical Handbook of Surgical After-Treatment" gives the details of nursing treatment which are purposely omitted in this book.