Book Reviews

SURFACE AND RADIOLOGICAL ANATOMY FOR STUDENTS AND GENERAL PRACTITIONERS. By A. B. APPLETON, M.A., M.D. (Cantab.), Professor of Anatomy, London University (St Thomas's Hospital Medical School); W. J. HAMILTON, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.S.E., Professor of Anatomy, London University (Charing Cross Hospital Medical College), sometime Regius Professor of Anatomy, Glasgow University; and G. SIMON, M.D., D.M.R.E. (Cantab.), Demonstrator of Radiological Anatomy, St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, and Assistant Radiologist, St Bartholomew's Hospital. Third edition. 10×8 in. Pp. viii+332, with 390 figures. Index and Appendix. 1949. Cambridge: W. Heffer & Sons, Ltd. Price 35/-.

This is the third edition of a book aiming to provide an "Introduction to the study of features which are accessible to examination in the living subject." This statement is too modest, for the book can be recommended also as a valuable reference work and companion for the post-graduate student and trainee specialist. It provides an atlas of normal surface and radiological anatomy and in addition illustrates deeper structures, mainly in relation to surface contours. In the last connection the book tends to deviate a little from its avowed purpose, by occasionally developing details of descriptive anatomy which are inappropriate. This, however, is a small point by comparison with the excellent radiological studies, and the relation of these to the living subject. For further editions, we would suggest the fuller use of illustrations depicting such common endoscopic examinations as those of the bladder, rectum and vagina. It is strange that these are missing when gastroscopy, an examination few men are likely to perform, is so beautifully illustrated. By comparison, the traditional sagittal sections of the cadaveric pelvis or head are rather out of place. As it is in the field of radiology that we think this book is so good, we venture to make our only serious criticism, namely, that it should be unnecessary to place arrows on so many of the obvious details presented by the radiographs. Students should be made to find out things for themselves from the descriptions given; radiologists should not be encouraged to commit the unforgivable sin of disfiguring their handiwork.—Norman CAPENER.

THE SCIENCE AND ART OF JOINT MANIPULATION—Vol. I—THE EXTREMITIES. By James MENNELL, M.A., M.D., Consulting Physician in Physical Medicine, St Thomas's Hospital, and former Lecturer to the Physiotherapy Training School. Hon. Fellow Chartered Society of Physiotherapy. Second edition. 10×8 in. Pp. xv+215, with 299 figures. Index. 1949. London: J. & A. Churchill, Ltd. Price 24/-.

During all his professional career James Mennell has made a particular study of manipulation. For many years he was almost alone in his endeavours to show that this branch of Physical Medicine was an essential part of therapy. He knew the methods of the unorthodox, some of which led to cure and others to disaster. Some thirty years ago, he had to face the fact that the public looked primarily to the osteopath for manipulative treatment and the medical profession tended to scoff at it. At that time he was studying its rationale, which was hardly considered by the "manipulator." Gradually he has shown the great detail of his study of anatomy and physiology relating to manipulation and proved that the function of the limbs is a problem worthy of thought. His writings, based on a wide experience, have attracted the attention of English-speaking nations. He has spent many years in teaching the study of manipulation. A second edition of "The Science and Art of Joint Manipulation" is most welcome at this time when departments of physical medicine are developing all over the country. This volume concerns the extremities and we are promised a second volume on the spine in a matter of months.

James Mennell

The first chapters deal with basic considerations and useful rules for manipulation, without any attempt to enumerate the indications. The technique of manipulation of all limb joints is then described in meticulous detail, and warning is given of the dangers. The chapters on the finger joint and the knee are of outstanding value. The author stresses function and movement, especially in the smaller joints of which he has made a detailed study. He writes of treatment after manipulation. Almost avoiding terms such as rehabilitation and occupational therapy, he tells us the value of using the garden shears and a typewriter. Manipulation for dislocation or fracture is outside the scope of the book. The many figures, mostly from