this country are accustomed to may at first prove a little confusing. The illustrations are numerous and instructive, greatly assisting the reader in following the text. The book is one which will well repay study; and we must congratulate the translator and editor on the manner in which they have accomplished their work.

Studies of Old Case Books. By Sir JAMES PAGET, Bart. London: Longmans, Green, & Co.: 1891.

A LARGE part of the medical books of the present day owe their existence to the desire of their authors for a legitimate advertisement of their hitherto unknown existence. Some are compilations, undigested, and therefore unreadable collections of other men's labours. Some are devoted to the description of some small nook in the surgical world, illustrated by highly-coloured descriptions of cases seen by the author, and tend successfully, in some cases, to connect the author's name with his favourite and possibly lucrative specialty. Some are written directly for the public. Others are the record of good, honest, original work; and though these pass through few editions, and, financially, are a loss, on them the foundation of an honest superstructure of success is often built. A few here and there are written really to instruct the profession, with no ulterior ends; these are generally short and well arranged, and therefore valuable.

In our profession we have to confess with shame that very little of its published work is literature in the true sense of the word. The undefinable and priceless charm of style is generally absent; when it is there, what a nobility it gives to the learned page.

This work is excellent in matter and cultured in style.

Sir James Paget is one whose works not only instruct but please. Like the great author of the *Religio Medici*, or the gentle Rab and the lamented Moxon, he gives us more than the mere learning or experience, the indefinable something, the fine air which tells us of learned leisure and a love of books. The mere contents of the work do not promise nearly as much as is performed. Seventeen subjects, mostly minor ones, no great operations, no new inventions, no epoch-making theories; but each little subject teaches us to observe, reminds us of past cases, and helps us to generalize with safety and precision. The experienced surgeon will value and appreciate this book more than the youthful and self-confident one can understand.

Elements of Ophthalmoscopic Diagnosis. By GEORGE A. BERRY, M.B., Ophthalmic Surgeon, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, etc. Edinburgh: Y. J. Pentland.

MR BERRY has issued this useful little book for the use of "students attending ophthalmic practice." Its accurate information, its clear and distinct statements, its handy size, and its low