excellent. We have great pleasure in welcoming this little treatise.

S. S. R.

TUBERCULOSIS AND HOW TO COMBAT IT: A BOOK FOR THE PATIENT.—By F. M. Pottenger, A.M., M.D., L.L.D., F.A.C.P. Second Edition. St. Louis: The C. V. Mosby Company. 1928. Pp. 275. Price, \$2.00.

THE author is a well-known writer on the subject of tuberculosis, and his classical textbook on this disease has a wide reputation not only in the United States but throughout the world. The present book, coming from such an authority, will carry much weight.

There is general agreement nowadays as to the principles along which tuberculosis should be combated, both in the individual and in the community, and many books have been written on this subject. It is only by the continuous education of the patient and his relations, and of the public at large that we can hope in the end to stamp out this disease. Dr. Pottenger's style is lucid and he puts forward many practical hints which will prove helpful to those who seek to fight against tuberculosis.

E. M.

FRACTURES AND DISLOCATIONS: IMMEDIATE MANAGEMENT AFTER CURE, AND CONVALESCENT TREATMENT WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF FUNCTION.—By P. D. Wilson, A.B., M.D., F.A.C.S., and W. A. Cochrane, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. (Edin.). Second Edition, revised; London: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1928. Pp. XVII plus 789 with 1029 illustrations. Price 45s. net. Obtainable from Messrs. Butterworth and Co. (India), Ltd. Price, Rs. 33-12.

It is a pleasure to review a second and revised edition of this excellent book; that a second edition would follow was a foregone conclusion.

A detailed account of the work is quite unnecessary, as this has already appeared in the *Indian Medical Gazette* for April, 1926. The book remains the same, except that "new methods and illustrations have been incorporated." Every surgeon and general practitioner must make himself familiar with the latest teaching on fractures and dislocations, and they could not do better than to select this book for the purpose. There are 19 chapters and 1029 illustrations; the latter are admirably executed, and liberally elucidate the text.

The publishers are to be congratulated on the way in which their work has been carried out in all respects; the English reader will not be irritated by American phraseology and spelling.

F. P. C.

PRACTICAL CLINICAL LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS.—By C. C. Bass, M.D. and F. M. Johns, M.D. Third Edition, 1929. Pp. 187 with 20 plates, 134 illustrations, including colour plates and photographs. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. Price, 34s.

THIS is an excellent manual, which should be in the hands of every laboratory worker. It is remarkable especially for its exceedingly complete series of photographs and for its colour plates. It is divided into 17 chapters, with 2 appendices, and is a wonderfully complete presentation of the subject in small compass. The use and care of the microscope, the preparation and staining of blood films, differential leucocyte counts, platelet counts and hæmoglobin estimations, blood-sugar and other special blood tests, malaria, the Widal reaction, examination of the urine, gastric contents, and faeces, of pus and exudates and sputum; leprosy, the spinal fluid, tests in diphtheria, gonorrhoea and syphilis are all detailed very fully. The appendices deal with formulae and apparatus. The book is exceedingly well printed and illustrated on glazed paper, and well bound. It may seem expensive, but we do not consider it so when the tremendous number of illustrations—134 plus 20 plates—many of which are in colour, in 187 pages—is considered.

The chief merit of the book, indeed, is its profuse illustrations, many of them photographs of successive steps in a laboratory procedure. Thus in the matter of

blood counts we have successive illustrations of the diluting pipette, the counting chamber from vertical and lateral aspects, taking the blood into the pipette from the patient's finger, diluting it in the pipette, revolving the pipette so as to thoroughly mix its contents, cleaning the cover glass, squeezing out the diluted blood into the counting chamber, each of the five steps in cleaning and placing the special cover glass over the counting chamber, looking at the distribution of cells to see that they are uniform, and of even and uneven distribution of cells—in all no less than twenty illustrations—many of them photographs—of the procedures employed in this one procedure. This alone will give some idea of how thorough the book is, and of how valuable it will be to laboratory workers in general.

In connection with each laboratory procedure the authors have given one method, and one method only, having selected in each case what they believe to be the best. The appendices are also very helpful, for they indicate with how small an amount of equipment the laboratory worker can carry out all tests ordinarily required. The colour plates also are a special feature of the volume, and (with one exception) admirably executed.

Of specially tropical diseases only malaria and leprosy receive consideration. With regard to the former, although colour plate VI of the malaria parasites is supplemented by a series of very fair photomicrographs, yet in our opinion it is very disappointing. We doubt indeed whether a student could learn to differentiate species from it. The delicate hair-like rings of *P. falciparum* are here shown as almost massive, whilst the hæmoglobin pigment in *P. malariae* is here almost wanting. Partly this may be the publishers' fault, but the plate is very disappointing. A less crowded plate with fewer but more accurate figures would have been better. In connection with leprosy no mention of examination of the nasal secretion is made, and the coloured illustration of the lepra bacilli is poor; we doubt whether a medical practitioner proceeding to the tropics could reliably diagnose leprosy from this account.

With these exceptions the book is admirable. Its account of the dark ground examination of *Treponema pallidum* is good, though the account of the morphology of the spirochæte might be extended. No less than six photographic illustrations show how to draw blood for the Wassermann or other specific reaction from the antecubital fossa. The Butler precipitin test, however, and not the classical Wassermann test or any of its modifications, is described.

On the whole, a book which has many excellent points and will be most helpful to the laboratory worker, but which, we think, might be improved with regard to tropical diseases.

R. K.

HANDBOOK OF BACTERIOLOGY.—By J. W. Bigger, M.D., Sc.D. (Dublin), F.R.C.P.I., D.P.H., M.R.I.A. Second Edition. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1929. Pp. XVI plus 452, with 2 plates and 82 text figures. Price, 12s. 6d. net.

THIS little book should prove extremely valuable as a class book for M.B. students in this country. It gives the student an excellent introduction to the subject of bacteriology. The author has balanced theory and practice nicely and thus produced a book which will give the medical practitioner an insight into the theories of bacteriology and immunity and at the same time sufficient instructions to carry out minor bacteriological examinations for himself. It does not claim to be a book for the laboratory worker. It is, of course, disappointing to find that the protozoa have only been allowed 19 pages and the pathogenic fungi 7, but this is always their fate in textbooks, whether in Europe or America, and the average examinee is not expected to know more of the subjects than will be found in these pages.

The book, which is well bound, and well printed on good art paper, is strongly recommended to both students and teachers.

L. E. N.