excessive fluid may be a means of sparing the patient great discomfort, and occasionally it may even postpone indefinitely a fatal termination.

Others have used somewhat similar methods with successful results. DeStéfano has employed direct drainage by means of small platinum needles under the skin, and in his hands this method has proved effective and harmless in 100 cases. In one of his patients 27 litres was evacuated in forty-eight hours; in only one case was there a slight superficial infection, which subsided in the course of twenty-four hours.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.

1. In eight cases of extensive œdema, mostly the result of congestive heart failure and resistant to medical therapeutic measures, we have employed Southey's tubes inserted into the œdematous subcutaneous tissue of the legs or scrotum. In two of our patients the results were strikingly beneficial, following the removal of 16 litres in the course of two days in one case, and of 9 litres in three and one-half days in another. In three patients there was moderate relief; in one case only slight improvement was noted; the remaining two patients were not relieved.

2. In suitable cases the use of Southey's tubes is a valuable therapeutic procedure, and we believe that the employment of this method as recommended many years ago by Reginald Southey should be revived.

Reviews.

BACTERIOLOGICAL TECHNIQUE: A LABORATORY GUIDE FOR MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND TECHNICAL STUDENTS.—By J. W. H. Eyre, M.D., M.S., F.R.S. (Edin.). Third Edition. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 1930. Pp. xli plus 619, with 238 figures in the text. Price, 21s. net.

It is with a feeling of considerable pleasure that we undertake the reviewing of this new edition of Eyre's *Bacteriological Technique*. It is nearly thirty years since the first edition appeared and during the whole of the intervening period this book has been the standard manual for the laboratory worker, not only in numerous medical schools throughout the British Empire, but in many research laboratories in India and other countries, and during the War the second edition, first issued in 1913, which was usually the bible of the young and little-experienced bacteriological specialist, found its way into many strange lands. It is characteristic of the reticence of the British scientist that he has kept us waiting so long for the third edition.

Even for the sake of those not familiar with this book it is scarcely necessary to enlarge on its scope. The title is sufficiently descriptive. It is not a dictionary of bacteriological technique, giving all the possible—and impossible—methods that might be employed, but for each circumstance a simple and sound technique is described. In some instances both the new and the older methods have been described. In these cases one has a feeling that the author does not like to desert methods which in the past have served him so well, and yet realises that the newer methods which are being universally adopted by his younger colleagues have definite claims to superiority. On the other hand, one knows that no technique that has not had a thorough trial has been described.

Two chapters, on the classification of fungi and on Schizomycetes, should be very useful for the non-medical technician to give him a more intelligent interest in the subject. We do not quite see why these two chapters did not come at the beginning of the book. In fact, if there is any criticism to be made, it is with regard to the arrangement of the subjects; it is very difficult to follow the reasoning which has led to the order that the author has adopted.

This book would form a very excellent companion to Topley and Wilson's two volumes on bacteriology, recently reviewed in this journal, from which the subject of routine technique was deliberately omitted.

The format is good and the price is very reasonable indeed.

L. E. N.

FAUNA OF BRITISH INDIA. CESTODES. VOL. II.—By T. Southwell, D.Sc., Ph.D., A.R.C.S., F.R.S.E. London: Taylor & Francis, 1930. Pp. ix plus 262. Price, 15s.

THIS volume deals with the single superfamily *Tænoidea*, which is the sixth and last superfamily of the order *Eucestoda*. The other five superfamilies were dealt with in Vol. I, of this work, which has already been reviewed in our January number. *Tænoidea* contains practically all the Cestodes, the adult stages of which are found in mammals and birds, and as the number of parasites recorded from these hosts in India is fully representative of the group as a whole, it is a book whose value will be appreciated by workers in many other countries besides India. In a book of this nature the author of necessity has to draw largely on the work of others, but it is surprising to note what a large proportion of the drawings are original, indicating that he has personally studied much of the material described. This makes the book much more valuable as it shows that the original descriptions have been checked by a worker of considerable authority. The volume ends with two very useful lists of all the species in both volumes; these are a classified list of the cestodes with their hosts, and a classified list of the hosts with the cestodes found in each. In the review of Vol. I, the reviewer ended with the words: "If the second volume, which has not yet appeared, comes up to the standard of the first, the two together will make a work of reference which any systematic helminthologist can ill afford to be without." After reading Vol. II, we feel that the above sentence needs no qualification.

P. A. M.

FELLOWSHIP EXAMINATION PAPERS FOR THE DIPLOMAS OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, EDINBURGH. 1927-1930. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. Pp. 42. Price, 2s. 6d.

THIS is a small paper-bound brochure, containing the questions set during four years in the single Licence examination, the Fellowship, and in optional subjects. It includes questions in anatomy, surgery and surgical anatomy, dental surgery, gynaecology, laryngology and allied subjects, obstetric surgery, ophthalmology, and surgical pathology. So many post-graduate students from India go to Edinburgh that this brochure will be of interest to many of our readers.

THE CATECHISM SERIES. MEDICINE, PART II; DISORDERS OF NUTRITION, OF THE KIDNEYS, BLOOD, AND DUCTLESS GLANDS. PATHOLOGY, PART V. CHEMISTRY, PART II. Third and Fourth Editions. Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. Price, each volume, 1s. 6d., plus postage.

THAT these small brochures are popular is evidenced by the fact that the first two have reached a third edition and the last a fourth edition. The *Catechism Series* is now a very large one, containing in all some 57 brochures. These will be found useful by students revising for their final examination. They are well printed and got up, though the authors' names are not given.

PYE'S SURGICAL HANDICRAFT: A MANUAL OF SURGICAL MANIPULATIONS, MINOR SURGERY AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE WORK OF HOUSE SURGEONS AND SURGICAL DRESSERS.—Edited by H. W. Carson, F.R.C.S. (Eng.). Tenth Edition. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Ltd., 1931. Pp. 641, with 343 illustrations in the text and 22 plates. Price, 21s. net.

It is a great pity that Carson did not live to see the tenth edition of this book in print. It has been