Saunders' Hand Atlases. Dentistry, including Diseases of the Mouth.—By G. PREISWERK. Edited by G. W. WARREN, D.D.S. W. B. Saunders & Co., 1906.

SAUNDERS' Hand Atlases are well known, and of the whole series we know of none of higher merit than that on Dentistry, translated from the German of Gustav Preiswerk, one of the chief exponents of the modern views on dentistry.

The volume is very complete; it treats of the anatomy of the teeth, histology and physiology; then comes interesting chapters on the bacteriology, and on diseases of the mouth, *viz.*, stomatitis of all kinds, mumps, noma, syphilis, tuberculosis, tumours, fractures, and anomalies of the teeth and jaws.

The special chapters on defects of the teeth, the technique of filling, disease of the pulp, and on extraction are all good.

Like all this series of Atlases the volume is magnificently illustrated, with 103 coloured plates and 152 illustrations in the text. For all interested in dentistry the book is invaluable.

The Immediate Care of the Injured.—By ALBERT S. MORROW, A.B., M.D. Published by W. B. Saunders & Co. 340 pp.; 235 illustrations.

THE author in his preface says that he has endeavoured to prepare a book useful alike to physicians, nurses and laymen, and which at the same time will serve as a text-book for First Aid classes. He goes on to say that First Aid should never supersede proper medical and surgical attention, and that in all cases a physician should be immediately summoned, and in the meantime the "First-aider" should do what he can. Having said this in his preface, the author makes no attempt in the body of the book to indicate to the various classes, to whom he wishes to appeal, the point at which their interference is likely to do more harm than good. Much of this ambiguity might be forgiven, were the author's statements of fact always correct. Here are a few instances of the errors referred to. The Haversian canals, lacunæ and canaliculi of bone are described as filled with blood; the nervous system is said to consist of a *continuous* chain of nerve cells (the italics are in the original); it is stated that a saturated solution of boric acid will quickly render dressings sterile; that silver is a germicidal agent (imagine the intelligent *parawallah* washing a wound with a gurrah-full of tank water into which he had dropped a rupee); that hæmorrhage should be stopped by water at 140°. The compression of the nostrils to stop epistaxis, is surely "ostrich" tactics. It is stated rightly enough that wounds about the wrist require that the ends of the cut tendons and nerves should be sought for and united, but no mention is made of the difficulty of the matter even to one with the necessary anatomical knowledge, and we do not think we are taking an unfair advantage of the author in picturing a parent, wild with

anxiety because his son has met with such an injury, and the doctor's coming is delayed, trying to do it himself. Should his son have been shot with some unknown weapon his anxieties are increased tenfold. He looks up the book and finds that if the wound has been inflicted by a gun he is not to probe it, but if by a toy pistol, then, no matter how deeply situated, all foreign matters must be removed. The two characteristics of injury to the abdominal viscera are said to be severe stabbing pain and profuse internal hæmorrhage. The emergency treatment of burns by white paint, and the statement that involvement of a large part of the body by sun-burn may prove fatal, are new to us. Attacks of epilepsy are described as not dangerous, the status epilepticus being ignored; and in the differential diagnosis between epilepsy and malingering the conjunctival reflex is not mentioned. The method advised to distinguish a poison bottle in the dark from that containing any other substance is distinctly original. It is "to pass several small pins transversely through the cork of the bottle so that the pointed ends project beyond the cork on the opposite side. On attempting to remove such a cork, a person will immediately become aware that he has not an ordinary bottle in his hands." Is it even probable that it would still be in his hands, and not in fragments on the floor after such an experiment? Again, two quarts of fluid forced into the stomach on a 5-foot head in a case of irritant poisoning seems unnecessarily energetic, and we imagine that the Pasteur Institutes of India are still awaiting the "preventive serum" against rabies, the inoculation with which is described as the proper method of "later treatment." As regards the greater part of the book, the inaccuracies are so many and the indication of the difficulties and dangers inherent in many lines of treatment so conspicuous by its absence, that we regret we do not feel justified in recommending it. It is a pity, for the portion dealing with bandaging, poisoning, and removal of the injured are really good, and the illustrations, particularly those on bandaging, excellent and helpful.

Correspondence.

THE USE OF QUININE IN PREGNANCY.

To the Editor of "THE INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE."

SIR,—Some time ago a Civil Surgeon wrote to you asking for experiences of others on the practical question of the use of quinine in cases of malarial fever occurring in pregnant women, so far I have seen no reply, which is strange as it is a point on which many of us must have had experience. I here quote a paragraph from the *Berlin. Klin. Wochenschrift* (Vol. XLIV, No. 5), which is of interest as regards the action of quinine on the pregnant uterus:—

"Maurer reports from Pfannenstiel's clinic 78 cases in which quinine was given during parturition to induce more energetic labour. In 61 cases the favourable influence of the quinine was unmistakable. It is entirely harmless for both mother and child, and proved exceptionally useful in promoting