treatment. The excellent book closes with two full indices, one of drugs and remedial measures, and the second of diseases and their remedies.

First-Year Nursing.—By MINNIE GOODNOW.
Published by W. B. Saunders Company.

WE consider this one of the best books on nursing we have read. It really is a book on nursing, and not an account, often inaccurate and always without first-hand knowledge of anatomy, physiology, and bandaging. Not only does it treat of nursing only, but it does so fully, practically, sanely, and sympathetically, and aims at, and is likely to accomplish its aims of, making the nurse, what she should be, some one closely observing and acting for and by direction of the medical man during his absence from the sick room.

Asphyxia Neonatorum—By N. N. BOSU, L.M.
and S. Published by the Author. Price 12 annas.

THIS is a very complete and useful booklet on the important subject of asphyxia in the new born. The author Asst.-Surgeon N. N. Bosu is the teacher of Midwifery in the Dacca Medical School and received a good training as House Surgeon in the Eden Hospital, Calcutta.

The subject is one of vast importance when we consider the great number of lives lost through the ignorance and improper treatment in the households of natives of India; and when we read in our author's words that "during childbed the woman in a Hindu household is a 'polluted thing' (italics are the author's), the merest touch of her entails purification of clothes and body and perhaps ablution in holy water of the Ganges....She is literally deserted by her friends even by her own parents during childbed....In orthodox families she is generally confined in the most deserted unclean and ill-ventilated cellar."

It is difficult to believe that such a state of savagedom could exist in these days when there is so much talk of and so much money spent on higher education in India.

If the conditions surrounding the entrance into life of the natives of Bengal are so terrible as depicted by Dr. Bosu, the sooner his useful little book is widely read and studied the better. The book contains a complete and accurate account of the life of the foetus and the new-born child and can be certainly recommended.

We hope that when a second edition is called for the enormous list of misprints and errata will be absent.

Plague and Malaria.—By A. L. DOMODARAN,
Salem. "T. A. C." Press, 1912.

THIS useful little pamphlet is an "Easy outline of the cause, prevention, treatment of Plague and Malaria." It is the first of a series intended to deal also with cholera, small-pox, etc.

The writer is painfully aware of the ignorance and superstition of his countymen and is determined to help to remove them in some degree.

The statements made are accurate and practical, and we recommend this little brochure a wide circulation of it among educated Indians could be most useful.

Clinical Bacteriology and Hæmatology.
Emery.

THIS book has now reached its fourth edition. It is divided into three parts. Part I deals with bacteriology, and is divided into three sections, the first on apparatus and processes, the second on the diagnosis of certain diseases, and the third is on the collection and examination of certain morbid materials. In Part II hæmatology is considered, and in Part III cyto-diagnosis is dealt with. In the appendix a table regarding weights and measures is given and three special methods of staining organisms.

The book is primarily intended for the use of practitioners at home and will fully meet their requirements. It is essentially practical and shows the reader how to adapt appliances of everyday life for the purposes of his investigation and so avoid the use of costly apparatus. The practitioner in the tropics, however, has different problems in this relation to deal with, and in this work these are hardly touched upon. To those who require a short, clear, and practical account of clinical bacteriology and hæmatology this book can be confidently recommended.

SPECIAL ARTICLES.

I.

STUDIES ON PNEUMONIC PLAGUE.

THE June number of *The Philippine Journal of Science* (vol. vii, B No. 3) is devoted to studies on pneumonic plague and plague immunisation based upon the work done during the terribly violent epidemic of plague, pneumonia in Manchuria in the winter of 1910-11.

We have already discussed the Report of the International Plague Conference, but we have seen no report at all approaching in completeness and interest the studies by Dr R. P. Strong and Dr. Teague of the Manila Bureau of Science.

The first "study" give an account of the conditions of work, the second is devoted to the method of transmission of the infection.

We quote as follows:—

"1. During normal and dyspnoic respiration of primary pneumonic plague cases, plague bacilli are not usually expelled by means of the expired air.

2 During coughing of such cases, even when sputum visible to the naked eye is not expelled, plague bacilli in large numbers may become disseminated into the air surrounding the patient.

The idea that infection of doctors, nurses, attendants, etc., in plague hospitals is caused entirely by particles of sputum expectorated by the patient and visible to the naked eye is erroneous. It follows from these experiments that the wearing of masks and the proper