

to the trachea than the operations either above or below the isthmus.

As regards the employment of a "chill fog," as Dr Foulis calls it, in the after-treatment, we still think that it is and has been most beneficial, and not by any means chilling in its action if properly managed.

Aphorisms in Fracture. By RICHARD O. COWLING, A.M., M.D.
Louisville: John P. Morton & Co.: 1881.

THESE aphorisms are 131 in number, and contained in 37 pages of a neat little book. With all of them we cannot agree, as, for instance, where it is stated that all fractures of the forearm, without exception, should be treated by two splints extending from the elbow to the tips of the fingers. Neither can we agree with the following:—"In Colles' fracture, after union has taken place, there may remain some of its characteristic deformity," unless, of course, we admit the former statement with regard to treatment. Again we read, "Every injury, save fractured olecranon near the elbow-joint, whether it be fracture or dislocation, should be dressed with rectangular splints." The next aphorism is, "More or less stiffness of the elbow is to be expected in every fracture occurring near this joint." This we would expect as the natural outcome of the indiscriminate use of rectangular splints.

Dr Cowling considers plaster of Paris the best application in all fractures of the lower extremity, without exception, and objects to the long splint, extension, etc. With this we cannot agree; in fact, our author himself points to one of the gravest objections against the plaster, viz., that "after the apparatus has been applied a week or so the limb has shrunk so that the hand may be interposed between it and the bandage. Of what use will it be then? Or is it to be taken down and put up again every week?"

We have mentioned these points from among several on which we cannot agree with Dr Cowling. At the same time, we are glad to be able to say that, on the whole, we admire his little book. It is plainly and frankly written; and although we cannot see any practical use for the book, we welcome it as the outspoken production of a practical surgeon.

A Treatise on Diphtheria. By A. JACOBI, M.D. New York:
William Wood & Co.: 1881.

THIS is a valuable practical work, written in a style easy for reference.

Professor Jacobi is thoroughly exhaustive in his treatment of