very disturbing indictment of "bridges" and "crowns" in dental work (p. 371).

The articles on the advances in the various branches of medical science are so clear and so well selected that even the most exclusive of specialists is readily led to peruse them, and so get into touch again with those medical subjects from which his special studies have drawn him away. For the specialist nothing could be more desirable than such an annual revision, while for the general practitioner it is indispensable.

Dundas Grant.

John and Elizabeth. By JAY GEE. Preston: Geo. Toulimer & Sons, Ltd., 1912.

In the "Jay Gee," who thus makes his *début* as a writer of "fiction with a purpose," we believe we recognise the well-known and respected head of a certain institution for the deaf in the Midlands. We welcome his "romance of real life" as calculated to increase public sympathy for, and interest in, a very important class of the community. The purpose of the novel as set out in the preface, is that of showing the great dangers of hereditary deafness, but we have found in it another and equally important one—a demonstration of what can be done for the deaf by education. In this connection, note must be taken of the sympathetic character sketch of Thomas Arnold, the head of the school for the deaf at which the heroine is educated.

Briefly, the story is of the love of a bank clerk for his chief's daughter, the congenitally deaf Elizabeth. His wish to marry is beset by the fear of deaf offspring, and the chapter which concerns us most from the medical point of view is that in which John discusses the question of hereditary deafness with Arnold. This chapter is excellent upon the whole, and emphasises the very vague ideas which general practitioners seem to have as to the nature and causes of severe deafness in children. There are, however, certain points to which we take exception. It cannot be said that there is as yet any proof that the occurrence of sporadic cases of congenital deafness presupposes the presence of a "taint" or "degeneracy" in the family or that the defect is likely to be transmitted. With a subject of so wide and far-reaching a nature—a subject which is still so much *sub judice* that the most expert of its observers scarcely dare to venture more than a few tentative suggestions—it is most unwise to offer statements as dogmatic as are some in this volume. At the same time we welcome the little romance as drawing the attention of the lay public not only to the question of deaf-mutism, but to the enormous patience which enables that noble and self-sacrificing army, the teachers of the deaf, to achieve the brilliant results which those who work amongst deaf children know to be a fact.

Macleod Yearsley.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Practical Guide to Diseases of the Throat, Nose and Ear, for Senior Students and Junior Practitioners. By *William Lamb*, M.D., C.M.Edin., M.R.C.P.Lond. Third Edition. London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 1913.

Die Ermüdung der Stimme (Phonasthenia). Von *Dr. R. Imhofer*, Prag. Würzburg: Curt Kabitsch, 1913.

Verletzungen des Ohres bei Katastrophalen Explosionen. Von *Dr. Ignaz Hofer* und *Dr. Oskar Mauthner.* Mit 3 Tabellen und 1 Kartenskizze. Wien und Leipzig: Joseph Safar, 1913.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S1755146300190092 Published online by Cambridge University Press