Wright.—*The Induction Coil in Practical Work.* By LEWIS WRIGHT. (Macmillan & Co., London.)

THE study of the Röntgen rays has become of such importance to all surgeons that any reliable guide to the working of the apparatus will be welcomed by the profession. Mr. Wright's works in other departments of physical science have deservedly held an extremely popular place in scientific circles, and the same may be predicted for the present volume. The practical working of the apparatus and the theories involved therein are clearly and concisely stated. The book is well illustrated with excellent photographic reproductions and many plates. We can thoroughly recommend it to anyone desirous of obtaining useful information on a physical subject which must have an important bearing on the future of medicine and surgery. *J. Macintyre.*

Lautmann.—*Atrophic Ozæna: Clinique, Pathogeny, and Serumtherapy.* (Paris: Henri Jouve, 1897. And also "Ann. des Mal. de l'Oreille," etc., Mar., 1897.)

THE author describes at length the clinical signs of atrophic ozœna, a specific disease which at some time during its course presents each of the following characteristics, viz.: (1) The presence of the special odour. (2) The constant presence of an abundant secretion, muco-purulent or dried into crusts. (3) A progressive atrophy, leading to complete disappearance of the mucosa and bones of the turbinates. To this triad may be added the constant presence of Loewenberg-Abel bacilli in the secretion, the tenacious character of the disease, which knows no arrest or cure other than the complete loss of the affected parts. With regard to scrofula as an etiological factor, the author finds no larger proportion of scrofulous individuals among the ozœna cases than is met with among the general run of hospital patients. Careful questioning and examination has failed to elicit evidence of congenital syphilis. At the present day three theories of the pathogenesis of the disease are accepted:—

1. The inflammatory theory.
2. The microbean theory.
3. The nervous theory.

(1) To the inflammatory theory the objection must be raised that its authors fail to explain the specific quality of an inflammation which leads to so unusual a result as the disappearance of the parts inflamed. (2) The microbean theory is based on the constant presence of the bacillus mucosus in the discharge, and also (Belfanti, Vedova) on the presence of pseudo-diphtheritic bacillus in the mucous membrane, coupled with the beneficial action of diphtheria antitoxin. The author finds both these organisms constantly present, but he is convinced that the writers named are mistaken in thinking that the pseudo-diphtheria bacilli are within the mucosa. The error has arisen from contamination of small portions of mucosa during the process of removal, and he finds that portions treated with antiseptic precautions are free from micro-organisms.

In criticising this theory the author shows that neither of these organisms alone can be the cause of the disease, nor have we any right

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