A Text-Book of Histology, including Microscopic Technic. Authorized Translation of the Second German Revised Edition of Dr. Boehm and von Davidoff's Histology. Edited with Extensive Additions to Text and Illustrations by C. Carl Huber, M.D., of the University of Michigan. Published in Philadelphia by W. B. Saunders & Co. 1900. Price, $3.50, *net.*

In selecting Drs. Boehm and von Davidoff's 'Text-Book of Histology' for an English edition, the American editor has made a happy choice. The excellent features of the original German editions are too well known to need any extensive comment here.

In general plan, clearness and brevity of treatment, combined as a rule with sufficient detail, the text is admirable. The illustrations are for the most part quite good. Especially praiseworthy are the suggestions as to technical methods following each topic, and the references to literature in the back of the book. The student finds here an exceptionally valuable addition to the statements of the text, in the effects of reagents and other treatment of the structures described, and is led to understand how and by whom the science has been developed. This feature gives a very broad conception of the subject, explains the basis of the facts and conclusions presented, and at the same time makes it easy to confirm and extend them in the laboratory and through the literature.

We find unevenness of emphasis, certain subjects being described in much greater detail than are others, as is usually the case in text-books; but the constant reference to original sources should counteract this, and the book as a whole has certainly been a decided success.

Dr. Huber must be congratulated on his English version of so good a text-book. Taking Dr. Cushing's excellent translation as a basis, the editor has rearranged the text to advantage here and there, and has rewritten and extended a number of topics, greatly improving them. Many new and valuable figures have been introduced. This is especially true of the sections on the structure of ganglia and nerve end-organs, the figures having been taken from Dr. Huber's own papers on the peripheral nerves. The nerve supply of all organs is much more fully treated than in the original. The discussion of the development of bone is much improved, and the sections on the structure of the spleen and ductless glands receive considerable additions.

The changes or additions of the editor seem well considered, wherever made, and it is only to be regretted that he has not attempted to bring all sections symmetrically up to date.

Finally the publishers must be complimented on a handsome book with excellent press work, and with illustrations as good as those of the German edition, which is high praise.

It is a pleasure to cordially recommend this book as one of the very best text-books available on the subject.

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Elements of Astronomy. Robert Ball. New York and London, The Macmillan Company. 1900. Pp. viii + 183. 80 cts.

Die Pflanzen-Alkaloide. Jul. Wilh. Brühl, Edvard Hjelt und Ossian Aschan. Braunschweig, Friedrich Vieweg und Sohn. 1900. Pp. xxii + 586. M. 14.

Beitrag zur Systematik und Genealogie der Reptilien. Max Fürbringer. Jena, Gustav Fischer. 1900. Pp. 91.

Ergebnisse der neueren Sporozoenforschung. M. Lühe. Jena, Gustav Fischer. 1900. Pp. iv + 100.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

In the November-December number of the *Physical Review*, Mr. Frank Allen describes an interesting series of experiments to determine the effect upon the persistence of vision of exposing the eye to light of various wave-lengths. It is found that prolonged exposure to red light increases the persistence of vision for light from the red end of the spectrum, while the sensitiveness of the eye for other colors is unaffected. It has previously been shown by Ferry that a 'red-blind' eye shows abnormally great persistence of vision at the red end of the spectrum. In respect to the duration of impressions, therefore, as well as in other respects, an eye that has been fatigued by red light re-