

and further, "that there exists in the brain no such physical medium of composition, and that the processes of the several sensory nerves simultaneously excited do not affect any common material medium to produce in it a complex physical resultant" (p. 18).

More than a quarter of a century ago I invented the term 'neopallium' for the definite cortical area where all sensory paths *do* converge and pour their currents into a continuous sheet of grey matter, which is a most definite and indubitable 'physical medium of composition.' Hence I am unable to accept the basal assumption of this book.

G. ELLIOT SMITH.

Oxford Histology

Histological Technique: for Normal Tissues, Morbid Changes and the Identification of Parasites. By H. M. Carleton. Chapters vii. and viii., in collaboration with Frederic Haynes. (Oxford Medical Publications.) Pp. xv + 398. (London: Oxford University Press, 1926.) 16s. net.

THIS book has been written by a young Oxford histologist who was trained in the Department of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy of Oxford. The author has had special experience in medical parasitology and a training in the various recently developed techniques for the study of the cytoplasmic inclusions of the cell. The present volume is not intended to be an exhaustive work on microtomy for the research worker in the same way as "The Microtome's Vade-Mecum," but is planned to act as an introduction to the subject, and to lead up to more advanced investigations.

The first book on modern histological methods which emanated from Oxford was that of Gustav Mann, entitled "Physiological Histology," 1902. When the reviewer was histologist at Oxford, there was a faded piece of paper pinned behind the histology *sanctum sanctorum* which set forth the sales of Mann's book. So far as the paper showed, the book was a failure—that is, commercially—but "Physiological Histology" even now contains material not found in any other text-book of microtomy, and was a decade or so before its time.

Another noted Oxford histologist, Dr. S. G. Scott, was a splendid type of the medically trained scientist. Scott specialised in the precise application and standardisation of the better-known laboratory techniques, such as those of hæmatology and colour reactions. Much of this worker's success was due to his special know-

ledge of the dyeing industry of Leeds. Scott died during the War, and his book was never written. Both "The Microtome's Vade-Mecum" and "Histological Technique," however, contain many of Scott's formulæ and 'tips.'

In recent years, owing not only to the kindly interest which Sir Charles Sherrington has shown in this subject, but also to Dr. Carleton's enthusiasm, the Oxford Histology Department has been enlarged, and its facilities have been brought up-to-date; "Histological Technique" will show that nowhere else is histology better taught and histological methods better understood.

Much of Dr. Carleton's book will be familiar to users of the "Vade-Mecum," and "Mallory and Wright," but it is not to be imagined that the author has not cut new ground. The exposition of the carefully weeded out material is clear and concise, and undoubtedly the most admirable part of the volume, from the student's point of view, is the arrangement of "Tables of Faults." Why do sections curl? Why does the tissue fall out of the block? Why does the ribbon refuse to form? and so on. In three columns, we have "Fault," "Diagnosis," "Remedy," as for example, "Sections crumble," "Paraffin too soft," and "Cool the block," as the remedy. Thus, a person working alone will find every facility for tracing out his difficulties and eliminating them. Some of the statements regarding the difficult chemical side of the subject found in Chaps. vii. and viii., which were written in collaboration with Frederic Haynes, are a little doubtful, and one feels that this is the least happy part of the book.

We are convinced that "Histological Technique" fills a long-felt want, and that the book is certain to go into many future editions. The author is to be congratulated. J. BRONTË GATENBY.

Citrus Fruits.

The Cultivation of Citrus Fruits. H. Harold Hume. (The Rural Science Series.) Pp. xxi + 561. (New York: The Macmillan Co., 1926.) 21s. net.

THE position of the genus *Citrus* amongst fruit crops cannot be over-estimated, for it includes fruits of such general use as the orange, lemon, lime, and grape-fruit, with others of less economic importance. This being the case, comprehensive books upon the subject are necessary from time to time, in order that growers in the many countries where these fruits are cultivated may be kept informed of improved varieties and better methods of cultivation and marketing as they are evolved.