

**ATLAS AND EPITOME
OF OPERATIVE
GYNECOLOGY**

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Atlas and Epitome of Operative Gynecology by Dr. Oskar Schaeffer & J. Clarence Webster

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of
OPERATIVE GYNECOLOGY

BY

DR. OSKAR SCHAEFFER

Privatdocent of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the University of Heidelberg

AUTHORIZED TRANSLATION FROM THE GERMAN
WITH EDITORIAL NOTES AND ADDITIONS

EDITED BY

J. CLARENCE WEBSTER, M.D. (Edin.), F.R.C.P.E., F.R.S.E.

Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Rush Medical College, in Affiliation
with the University of Chicago; Obstetrician and Gynecol-
ogist to the Presbyterian Hospital.

*With 42 Colored Lithographic Plates and
Many Text-illustrations, Some in Colors*

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EDITOR'S PREFACE.

IN all medical schools students who graduate each year know less about gynecologic operations than about almost any other department of operative surgery. Amphitheater demonstrations are valuable only to the few who are fortunate enough to be placed very near the field of operation. In several European schools courses are given to limited numbers in which certain operative procedures are practised on genitalia removed from bodies and fastened into manikins. The value of the method is very restricted, even for the few students who have the opportunity of employing it. In a large medical school, owing to the difficulty of obtaining material, it cannot benefit the great body of students. For many years teachers have been forced to depend largely upon pictorial representation in demonstrating gynecologic operations.

The author, a well-known German teacher, has made a specialty of demonstrating by illustrations, and issues this volume as an aid to those who wish to study the surgical part of gynecology. The work represents mainly the experience and practice of Dr. Schäffer, and is not to be regarded as a comprehensive text-book. The editor holds himself in no way responsible for the general plan or for the details.

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PREFACE.

EIGHT years have now elapsed since the appearance of the first of these atlases, the plans for which were somewhat tentatively sketched by the publisher and the author, because the technic had to contend with a number of difficulties; but even at that time the *Atlas of Gynecologic Technic* which is now presented to the reading public was included in the general plan of the undertaking. Much patient endeavor has been expended by the author, the artist, and the lithographer in the preparation of this series of water-colors and pen-and-ink drawings. They are based on hundreds of photographs taken from nature, and, it is hoped, reproduce as faithfully and in as instructive a manner as possible the various surgical situations which they are intended to illustrate. As we gained in experience and became accustomed to working together and to the peculiarities of the subject, the sketches improved in quality and gained in accuracy; and we, therefore, crave indulgence for the crudities and irregularities which, we are well aware, characterize some of the earlier pictures. A mass of original material had to be collected, for which I was thrown entirely on my own resources. My thanks are due to Mr. A. Schmitson, the artist, whose devotion to the work and ability, not only in handling the pencil and the camera, but also in entering into the

technical details of the various operative procedures and in reproducing the colors of the tissues, it gives me the greatest pleasure to acknowledge. The many technical difficulties attending the reproduction of the pictures have been successfully overcome, thanks to the well-known energy and unwearied devotion of the publisher, Mr. J. F. Lehmann.

It is the hope of the author that this atlas, as well as the earlier ones, will prove a useful aid in the study of operative gynecology by means of the object-lessons it contains, particularly as it is impossible to demonstrate the individual steps of an operation clinically to the majority of the students on the benches. The plan invented by von Winckel, of using an "operative phantom," marks a distinct improvement in didactic methods, but the desiccated condition of the anatomic specimens and the loss of the natural color greatly detract from the value of the method. Pictures and "phantom" are mutually complementary.

The text closely follows the illustrations. No attempt whatever has been made to give an exhaustive exposition of the subject or to include all possible complications.

DR. O. SCHAEFFER.

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