

EDITORIAL.

THIS, the first number of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF OBSTETRICS, etc., is offered to the medical profession with the hope that, as a sample of succeeding numbers, it will be found of sufficient value to merit their approbation, and that it may, if possible, supply the want long felt by many, of some Periodical which would be devoted exclusively to Obstetrics and the diseases of women and children.

There has probably been no period in which Obstetrics and Gynecology have engaged more attention both at home and abroad than they do at the present time, and the tremendous strides which the above branches of the science of medicine have made within the last few years, have necessarily given us a literature of the same, which equals, if it does not excel that of any other branch. It is to be regretted, however, that the practical part of our profession is so arduous, and the fulfilment of its duties consumes so much time, that weeks, and doubtless in many instances even months, elapse before we become familiar with the latest and accepted views and teachings of those who are recognized as authorities on their subject; a few moments, however, given to the perusal of a Journal will often supply the place of original works, by giving extracts, reviews, and a general synopsis of the same, while its original communications, when carefully selected, will likewise afford valuable and practical information. ;

It is well known that there are many in the profession who, though shrinking from the arduous task of writing a book on results of years of practical study, are yet often willing to express their views, or give their valued experience in the pages of a Journal; to this latter class, therefore, a Journal looks for material, and it is according to the value of this material that it succeeds.

With these few remarks, we call upon the profession throughout the country to give us their support in our undertaking, and having the same, it will be our constant endeavor to make the **AMERICAN JOURNAL OF OBSTETRICS AND DISEASES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN** a valuable addition to every medical library.

In conclusion we would state that Dr. NOEGGERATH, one of the Editors of this Journal, sailed last month for Europe, to be gone several months, and that while there, he will make such arrangements as will secure valuable foreign material for our future numbers.