Book Notices

"The body of this book," according to the Introduction, "contains Tyndall's series of lectures on sound delivered in the United States [1872-73]." It does indeed, but more importantly the book contains a thoroughly readable introduction to its subject readily and pleasantly grasped by the interested layman, an introduction which can hardly be said to be out of date almost a hundred years after the writing. The presentation is masterly in every respect, for John Tyndall was a writer rare in his ability to write entertainingly but at the same time with fidelity and candid clarity. Tyndall had many famous friends including such figures as the great Helmholtz in Berlin, Faraday of the Royal Institution, Joseph Henry, Chairman of the Lighthouse Board at Washington, D. C., and others. An attractive feature of the book are the anecdotes involving his friends, all of which add a friendly, human quality to an otherwise thoroughly enjoyable book.

C. H. Shaw