

in medicine. Etiology, symptomatology, diagnosis and treatment are dealt with in a concise manner but with sufficient fullness to enable the student to grasp the salient points. No attempt is made to deal with pathology, nor are diseases of the skin and nervous system considered. Many subjects are illustrated by engravings, which add to the value of the work. While the book is a good one of its kind and has its uses, the growing tendency on the part of the student to rely upon brief epitomes for his work, to the neglect of the more exhaustive volumes, should not be encouraged. This is not the author's intention. His desire is to place before the physician and student the recent progress in medicine in concise form. This he has ably accomplished.

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*A Text-Book of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Pharmacology.* By GEORGE FRANK BUTLER, Ph.G., M.D., Professor of Materia Medica and Clinical Medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, University of Illinois; Professor of General Medicine and Diseases of the Digestive System, Chicago Clinical School; Attending Physician to Cook County Hospital. Third edition, revised. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, 925 Walnut Street. 1899.

The author of this volume adopts an arrangement of the remedies which is an attempt at being both practical and scientific. The drugs are grouped according to their principal pharmacological affinities. Thus the materia medica, pharmacology and therapeutics of carbolic acid, creosote, guaiacol, iodoform, eucalyptus, boric acid, etc., remedies which are mainly used as antiseptics, are described in one division of the work. The arrangement of these drugs, as well as of those under many of the other therapeutic classes, such as emetics, cardiac stimulants, cardiac sedatives, anthelmintics, purgatives, etc., is an excellent method of presenting the subject. However, there are many drugs which are not so readily classified. For the purpose of overcoming this difficulty the author discards several of the old therapeutic classes and introduces new ones, such as aromatics, motor excitants, motor depressants, etc. We do not think that this procedure has at all improved matters. In the group called motor depressants we find physostigma, conium, amyl nitrite and bromides, drugs which are not pharmacologically closely allied. In addition to the classification there are many other notable features. The chapters on pharmacy form a valuable part of the work. The book contains a large number of diagrams, illustrating the mode of action of various drugs. We can warmly recommend the volume to both students and practitioners.