

Reviews.

DICTIONARY OF HYGIENE AND PUBLIC HEALTH, comprising Sanitary Chemistry, Engineering, and Legislation, the Dietetic Value of Foods, &c., &c., on the plan of the "Dictionnaire D'Hygiène Publique" of Prof. Ambroise Jardien. By Alex. Wynter Blyth, M.R.C.S., F.C.S., &c., &c. (Chas. Griffin & Co., London).

The work now offered to the public aims at filling a vacant place in English sanitary literature, namely, that of a book of reference, which, in one volume of convenient size, shall contain the information on sanitary topics at present only to be gathered from the perusal of many separate and distinct treatises. It is not intended solely and entirely for any particular class. Sanitation is universal—it concerns every living unit of the State, and is of equal value to all; therefore, although the special wants of the practical hygienist, and medical officer of health and public analyst, have naturally claimed the first place, and received the attention which their importance demands, Dr. Blyth has throughout endeavored to render intelligible to non-professional readers also, every subject susceptible of such treatment. A special feature of the present work is that it contains, in a form admitting of easy and rapid reference, the whole of the Public Health Act of 1875, as well as sections and portions of the sanitary statistics without alteration or abridgement, save in a few unimportant instances. It contains numerous and well executed illustrations, besides charts, and a map of the geographical distribution of health and disease, (by permission from Keith Johnston's Physical Atlas). The value of an undertaking of this kind must always be in exact proportion to its accuracy and completeness, and, bearing these conditions in mind, the author has spared no pains to fulfil both of them. We venture to predict that although there are a few shortcomings, it will prove a useful work. It fills a want long felt, and as such will find a place on the library shelves of those interested in sanitary progress.