

to written rules. In this place, we shall merely endeavor summarily to describe the conditions affecting the successful employment of medicines which arise out of the mode in which they are administered."

The arrangement of the work consists of the description of the entire subject under twelve separate heads or classes; such as, class 1, Lenitives; 2, Astringents; 3, Irritants; 4, Tonics; 5, General Stimulants; 6, Cerebro-Spinal Stimulants; 7, Spinants; 8, General Sedatives; 9, Arterial Sedatives; 10, Nervous Sedatives; 11, Evacuants; and *12, Alteratives. Before entering on a description of the remedial agents under each heading, there is given a general view of the *modus operandi* of each class.

We have already extended this review beyond our limits: we cannot however conclude without according our hearty congratulations to Dr. Stillé for having produced a work in every respect worthy of acceptance by the medical profession. To the physician in active practice there is no work in which he will more fully ascertain the therapeutic action of any special remedy; and to the student, these volumes supply a want which has been sorely felt during the last few years. The publishers deserve every commendation; the typographical execution is in the highest style of art, reflecting credit on those under whose auspices the work has been laid before the profession. It is to be had of Dawson Bros., Great St. James Street.

The Functions and Disorders of the Reproductive Organs in Childhood, Youth, Adult Age, and Advanced Life, considered, in their Physiological, Social, and Moral Relations. By WILLIAM ACTON, M.R.C.S. Eng.; Fellow of the Royal, Medical, and Chirurgical Societies. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blackiston, 1865. Pp. 269. Montreal: Dawson Brothers.

The influence which the sexual passions exert over mankind is greater than any other; and so frequently is the physician or surgeon consulted on matters connected therewith, that it becomes his absolute duty thoroughly to understand the subject, and to do so he must patiently examine everything which can possibly give him light. Mr. Acton was for several years a pupil, and then an assistant, to the celebrated Ricord, of Paris, and beyond a doubt he made a good use of the ample means then at his disposal. His work bears evidence that on this particular subject he is an enthusiast; in fact, his whole life has been devoted to it. He has written a very valuable book, the greater part replete with valuable information and hints to the practitioner. Yet there are some portions of it that we cannot conscientiously commend. Mr. Acton,