

*Cutaneous and Venereal Memoranda*, by Henry G. Piffard, M.A., M.D., Professor of Dermatology, University of New York, and George Henry Fox, A.M., M.D., Surgeon to the New York Dispensary. New York, William Wood & Co.; Montreal, Dawson Bros., 1877.

We have read this little work through with a very great deal of pleasure and profit. Its size is so small and compact that it might be held in one hand for an hour, without occasioning any fatigue. This we consider no small recommendation, for, usually, medical works are difficult of manipulation. Although the book is intended chiefly for students who are unable to procure voluminous works on the special subjects of which it treats, it is still worthy of being purchased by medical men, who, with time constantly occupied, desire occasionally and with speed to refresh their memory, especially on the subject of treatment. The discussion of theoretical questions has been avoided, and histological details have been omitted: this we think very wise, their introduction would have increased the size of the book, and not have added to its practical character. The metric system, as well as the old method, are given, so that those who desire to use either formulas have them at their disposal. The various important skin diseases are described in language so plain, and yet scientific, that we might almost say, "that he who runs may read."

*Biddle's Materia Medica*, by John B. Biddle, M.D., professor of Materia Medica in the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. Eighth edition, revised and enlarged, with numerous illustrations. Philadelphia, Lindsay & Blakiston; Montreal, Dawson Brothers, 1878.

For year's Biddle's *Materia Medica* has been a standard text book in, we believe, every medical college in the Dominion of Canada, and rightly so; for we express but our honest conviction when we say that no *Materia Medica* of the same size contains as much valuable information as it does. Every edition which has been issued,—and the demand for the work has been so great that editions succeeded each other in very rapid succession—has been fully up to the latest advances in *Materia Medica*. Its style is clear

and succinct, and, even on very dry subjects, it makes the reading pleasant. The book has many new illustrations, representing, as in previous editions, most of the important indigenous and naturalized plants. It also has diagrams of the instruments employed in the atomization of liquids, in the new operation of pneumatic aspiration, in the transfusion of blood, and in the recently introduced pneumatic method in the treatment of thoracic diseases.

Most cordially we recommend this book to students of medicine.

*The Practitioner's Reference Book, adapted to the use of the Physician and Pharmacist and the Student*. By RICHARD J. DUNGLESON, M.D., Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakeston, 1877.

This is a volume of three hundred and thirty-five pages, and it has been upon our table quite long enough to enable us to form some idea of its value, as a reference book. As mentioned by the author there are in this work, facts and hints, culled from various works and periodicals, which from the scattered sources from which they have been taken must otherwise have remained inaccessible to many. Their collection in a substantial volume is a boon which we have appreciated, and which we feel sure will be appreciated by all who purchase the volume. It is well worthy to find a place on the study table of every practising physician—such is our opinion after having the volume in our possession for over three months. It can be had direct from the publishers, or through Dawson Bros., Montreal.

*A Treatise on Gonorrhœa and Syphilis*. By SILAS DURKEE, M.D., Consulting Surgeon of the Boston City Hospital. Sixth Edition, with eight colored illustrations. Philadelphia, Lindsay & Blakiston; Montreal, Dawson Brothers.

This is nominally a new edition of this work, but we confess that we see little, if any, new matter in it, comparing it with the last edition; still it is a very readable and valuable treatise upon a class of affections which are, unfortunately for the human family, of too common occurrence. It is a work of a very practical character, giving a number of useful prescriptions which Dr. Durkee has found of great service in the treatment of gonorrhœa and syphilis, and, in spite of some imperfections, it will form a valuable addition to the library of any medical man. The colored illustrations are very good, and, altogether, the work is produced in a most creditable manner.