

As the practical worth of this kind of a book consists in its having a handy and complete index, this book has it, for some 16 pages of small type are devoted to this object, and some of the lines have as many as 20 different references to as many different formulæ; this would go to show that there are 2,000 different prescriptions given in the volume. In other words, taking the price of the book into consideration (\$1.00), it would argue that there are furnished some 20 different prescriptions for one cent. We notice that many of the newer remedies are among the prescriptions, thus bringing the treatment of many of the diseases down to date. Both old and new writers of both home and foreign countries are represented among its formulæ.

Blank pages are frequently introduced, so that a handy place is furnished for recording any new prescription that one might wish to preserve. The printed index will index all such pencilled additions, if care is taken to write them opposite a page with a formula for similar disease: this would then save the bother of indexing the pencilled additions.

Circumcision—Its Moral and Physical Necessities and Advantages.

Dr. A. W. Taylor, of Beverly, in an essay on this subject, said that the operation of circumcision was 3,797 years old, the first operation having been done on a person ninety-nine years old, and the next on his son of nineteen. The operation had evidently had its foundation in sound physiological reasons. There could be no doubt that the original divine decree had been intended as a sanitary precaution. Circumcision was the oldest of all surgical operations. Not all cases of congenital or inflammatory adhesions of the prepuce to the glans were continued to adult life, but circumcision and the removal of these adhesions contributed largely to the comfort of the individual. It was not necessary that the constriction should be complete or the prepuce narrow and long to give rise to severe nervous symptoms. The organ was exceedingly sensitive to mental or local irritation. Phimosis was responsible for a long series of formidable symptoms. The speaker was of the opinion that not infrequently marital unhappiness would be better relieved by circumcising the husband than by suing for divorce, and that a man, before marrying, should be examined with this operation in view should it be indicated.—*Medical Review*.