

BOOK NOTICES.

THE MEDICAL NEWS VISITING LIST FOR 1894. Weekly (dated, for 30 patients); Monthly (undated, for 120 patients per month); Perpetual (undated, for 30 patients weekly per year); and Perpetual (undated, for 60 patients weekly per year). The first three styles contain 32 pages of data and 176 pages of blanks. The 60 Patient Perpetual consists of 256 pages of blanks. Each style in one wallet-shaped book, pocket-pencil, rubber, and catheter-scale, etc. Seal Grain Leather, \$1.25. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co., 1893.

The Medical News Visiting List for 1894 has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date in every respect. The text portion (32 pages) contains the most useful data for the physician and surgeon, including an alphabetical Table of Diseases, with the most approved Remedies, and a Table of Doses. It also contains sections on Examination of Urine, Artificial Respiration, Incompatibles, Poisons and Antidotes, Diagnostic Table of Eruptive Fevers and the Ligation of Arteries. The classified blanks (176 pages) are arranged to hold records of all kinds of professional work, with memoranda and accounts. Four styles are now published: Weekly (dated, for 30 patients); Monthly (undated, for 120 patients per month, and good for any year); Perpetual (undated, for 30 patients weekly per year); and Perpetual (undated, for 60 patients weekly per year). This last style consists of 256 pages of assorted record blanks, without text. The Medical News Visiting List adapts itself to any system of keeping professional accounts. Each style is in one volume, bound in handsome red leather, with pocket-pencil, rubber, and catheter-scale; price, \$1.25. When desired, a Ready Reference Thumb-letter Index is furnished, which is peculiar to this Visiting List, and will save many-fold its small cost (25 cents) in the economy of time effected during a year. In short, every need of the physician seems to have been anticipated in The Medical News Visiting List.

THE PHYSICIAN'S VISITING LIST FOR 1894, published annually for 43 years Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia. Price, \$1.

The fact that this Visiting List has been published annually for forty years is sufficient guarantee of its excellence and popularity. In addition to the visiting list proper, it contains easily-accessible suggestions upon many of the emergencies that may arise in a physician's practice, as when he is too far from home to learn from his text-books the antidote

for a poison that may have been swallowed, or the proper method of resuscitating a half drowned person. True, he should know these things, but who does not occasionally forget when he most wishes to remember? There are also dose-tables, tables of the metric system, a list of new remedies, rules for examining urine, a table for calculating the period of pregnancy, and other equally useful information. The arrangement for entering patients, visits, consultations, etc., is exceedingly simple, and the whole makes a thin, compact, and easily carried volume.

PUBLISHERS' DEPARTMENT.

A TOO COMMON AFFRONT TO THE PROFESSION.

About a year since, the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, in an editorial article, referred in unqualified language to the strained relations which it asserted were existing between physician and druggist: the salient cause being the habit of counter-prescribing, coupled with the more vicious habit of substituting. Since then, if we may judge from the tone of the bulk of new literature being sent out, the substitution habit is shown to be the one great enemy overtopping all others to successful medical practice.

We do not mean to assert that pharmacists are given to the habit. On the contrary, we believe a large majority of them to be entirely free and above suspicion. Still, the fact remains that substitution is practised to such an extent as to engender anxiety and timidity on the part of prescribing physicians.

Persistent effort at substitution is but a commendation of the genuine product sought to be imitated, and the practising physician is quick to recognize the fact. And, once recognizing it, his confidence in the genuine is strengthened, while at the same time he is forced into the unpleasant attitude of maintaining a constant wariness over his prescriptions.

As fairly typifying this condition, we give below an extract from a letter from Dr. Bostick, of Galena, written Oct. 24th, 1893, to the Antikamnia Chemical Co. This letter is, by the way, a fair prototype. He says:

"I became dissatisfied some time since with the action, or rather non-action, of what I supposed to be Antikamnia. I began to look into the matter, and discovered the druggist had been substituting in my prescriptions. I then had him get me tablets which I felt quite sure he, with any appliances he had, could not imitate, since which time I have been entirely satisfied with its action. I am satisfied that much *stuff* is sold and palmed off as Antikamnia, much to the detriment of your article, which has proven so very satisfactory to me. In many cases where quinine is indicated, I cannot prescribe it on account of its action on the brain, unless with Antikamnia, which seems to remove the objectionable feature."

The foregoing will surely justify all practitioners, where they may have cause to suspect they are being subjected to any such practices, in insisting upon the perfect integrity of everything they specify in their prescriptions. *The doctor has the highest and best right to insist that no worthless substitute be imposed upon his defenceless patient.*—*Courier of Medicine*, Nov., 1893.