

BOOK REVIEWS.

THE READY REFERENCE HAND-BOOK OF DISEASES OF THE SKIN.
GEORGE THOMAS JACKSON, M.D., p. 633. Third Edition. Lea Brother & Co., New York and Philadelphia.

As the name implies this is not an exhaustive treatise upon diseases of the skin, but rather a condensed epitome of what is now known of these diseases. The author opens his book with a short account of the physiology and anatomy of the skin and its appendages. Then follow some general considerations upon diagnosis. Next we have therapeutic notes, in which the author refers to the agents which are now employed in the treatment of diseases of the skin, both by internal medication and by external application. In this part of the work useful hints are given as to the best methods of dispensing the various remedies. The classification of skin diseases, as given by Crocker, which is Hebras' classification somewhat modified, forms the next part of the work. This classification, however, is not followed in the body of the work, but the diseases are taken up in alphabetical order. This arrangement is an advantage when one knows the name of the disease he wishes to look up, but is rather a defect from the student's standpoint. However this defect, if defect it be, is overcome by having the classification already referred to, in which the author gives not only the name of the various diseases but the most prominent primary lesion. In the body of the work each disease is discussed separately—the Aetiology, Symptomatology, Diagnosis and Treatment being fairly fully discussed. The appendix contains some 80 odd formulæ for baths, lotions, ointments, powders, caustic applications and mixtures for internal administration, which will serve as a good guide to the student or practitioner in writing prescriptions for the treatment of diseases of the skin. While this book will not take the place of the larger and fuller works upon this subject (and we do not suppose that the author intended that it should) it will be found a very useful and reliable work of reference for the practitioner, and a great boon to the medical student who with all his other studies cannot find time to thoroughly study the larger works.

"THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE." By WOOD & FITZ. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, pp. 1071.

A work on Practice of Medicine is of value only when the