

BOOK REVIEWS.

A Text Book of Practical Medicine.—By Wm. Gilman Thompson, M.D., Professor of Medicine in Cornell University Medical College, New York, Physician to the Presbyterian and Bellevue Hospitals, New York. Illustrated with 79 engravings. Cloth, \$5.00. Lea Bro's & Co., New York and Philadelphia.

This volume contains 1,010 pages, divided into nine parts, covering the whole field of medical practice at the present day. In a limited space it is impossible to review in detail the various subjects dealt with. The author strikes the proper key-note for a text book adapted to the needs of students and practitioners when he says in the preface "that curative medicine is assumed to be the final and avowed object of those who may read this volume," a matter too much lost sight of in many recent publications in medicine. The profession will be glad to welcome this return from the ultra scientific, unpractical disquisitions of continental writers, in which treatment of disease has frequently been ignored or at least dealt with as of secondary importance, to plain, practical, Anglo-Saxon common sense.

The author has not neglected the latest discoveries in clinical microscopy, pathology and bacteriology, where these are of practical interest. The discussion of the pathology of individual diseases has received careful attention and in most cases is accurate and up to date, though we do not hesitate to say that the book will be of more value from its practical than from its purely scientific aspect.

The literary character of the work is open to criticism at times, making the reading difficult, and frequently the meaning is obscure. On page 18 he speaks of "a disastrous epidemic, *causing* more than 1,900 cases," evidently a want of care in the selection of the proper word to express his meaning.

The press work is very good. Altogether the book well represents the latest teaching in modern medicine, is essentially practical and we believe will be well received by the profession.

Books.

W. B. Saunders & Co. announce that they will issue shortly "The American Illustrated Medical Dictionary," edited by W. A. N. Dorland. The price will be \$4.50 net.
