

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Outlines of Modern Chemistry,—Organic, based in part upon Riches' Manuel de Chemie. By C. GILBERT WHEELER, Professor of Chemistry in the University of Chicago. N. S. Barnes & Co., New York and Chicago. 1877.

This is a very readable account, in a small space, of the general principles of the chemistry of the organic compounds. The author has not attempted to give us an exhaustive treatise on the subject, but one that will be of practical use to students who have mastered the subjects of inorganic chemistry and chemical physics. The book is well got up in paper, press work and binding.

Physicians' Vade Mecum and Visiting List; arranged and prepared by H. C. Wood, M.D. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

This is a new and convenient visiting list, holding much useful information in a small compass. It contains articles on Poisons and their Antidotes, a Posological Table, the Metric System, Diagrams of the motor points of the muscles for those using electricity, &c. We have seen no better visiting list.

Sycosis: Prize Essay for 1877 of the Bellevue Hospital Medical College Alumni Association. By A. R. ROBINSON, M.B., L.R.C.P. & S., Edin.

Retarded Dilatation of the Os Uteri in Labour. By ALBERT H. SMITH, M.D., Phila.

APPOINTMENTS.

Horace P. Yeomans, of the Village of Mount Forest, Esquire, M. D., to be an Associate Coroner in and for the County of Wellington.

Thomas Smith Walton, of the Village of Parry Sound, Esquire, M. D., to be an Associate Coroner in and for the District of Parry Sound.

Sclerotic acid, the active principle of ergot, isolated by Dr. Dragendorff, appears in the American prices current at £5 per ounce. It is administered hypodermically in doses of $\frac{1}{16}$ th to $\frac{1}{12}$ th of a grain.

Miscellaneous.

EMBALMING.—Dr. Lowell, of this city, has devised a process of embalming bodies which bids fair to revolutionize the business of undertaking. If his plan shall be adopted and succeed, the use of the ice-box and other expensive appliances, generally in request for the preservation of cadavers by the agency of cold, will become entirely unnecessary, and will be succeeded by an inexpensive and simple process, which we will briefly indicate as follows: A solution of chloride of zinc is the preservative fluid used; this is contained in a porcelain-lined vessel, which is elevated to a convenient height, so that the contents will be injected into the cadaver after the manner of a gravity-syringe. For the passage of the fluid from its receptacle into a vein of the cadaver, glass and rubber-tubing are all that is required. A finely-tapered glass tube is held tightly in place in the vein, while a glass U-shaped tube acts as a siphon to conduct fluid from the receptacle. The quantity of fluid will, of necessity, vary in different cases; four or five gallons may be required. This plan will not work when operations have been performed whereby large vessels have been opened. A body thus treated was transported from this city to Richmond, Va., this summer, without odour, and without disfigurement or any external signs of decay. All that is required is that the physician shall expose a vessel, adjust the glass tube, and the fluid will find its own way. Dr. Lowell has let the instrument run all night. There is promise in this of a saving to the city of Brooklyn alone of from \$75,000 to \$100,000 each year in the one item of ice, in addition to doing away with much unpleasant and cumbersome material in caring for the dead. Dr. Lowell writes: "The injection may be made by either artery or vein. I have tried both with success. I prefer the brachial artery above the elbow as the point for introduction of glass tube, for the primary incision is slighter, and, consequently, divides smaller and fewer veins than when I expose the femoral artery. I use the gravity method, and introduce about five gallons of the antiseptic fluid. The effects are eminently satisfactory. The colour of the in-