

also throughout the world to assist him with his laborious undertaking. The general index by Dr. Witherstine is itself a perfect wonder, for it must contain many thousands of references, every possible form of disease being accompanied by a column with the latest treatment and another column stating by whom that treatment is recommended. Every one of our readers should possess this book, or at least it should be on the table of every medical library. No medical writer or teacher of medicine can afford to be without the Annual of the Universal Medical Sciences for 1891.

A TEXT-BOOK OF PRACTICAL THERAPEUTICS, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE APPLICATION OF REMEDIAL MEASURES TO DISEASE AND THEIR EMPLOYMENT UPON A RATIONAL BASIS. By Hobart Amory Hare, M.D., B. Sc., Professor of Therapeutics and Materia Medica in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. Second edition, enlarged and thoroughly revised. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co., 1891. Price, cloth, \$3.75; leather; \$4.75; just ready.

The fact that the first edition of this book was exhausted within six months of its publication, and adopted as a text-book in a number of medical schools during that time, has encouraged the author in his efforts to make the work more serviceable than before. A number of new drugs are discussed which have been tried with sufficiently good results to warrant their introduction into a text-book and work of reference, and the latest information regarding the more familiar medicaments has been added. The method of employing the rest-cure, and the use of suspension in the treatment of locomotor ataxia and allied affections are given, and a large number of new prescriptions have been inserted to illustrate still further the best means of applying remedies for the cure of disease. The object of this book is to provide the physician or undergraduate student of medicine with a reliable guide in the study of Therapeutics, or the application of remedial measures for the cure of disease. It has been written because, in the belief of the author, most of the text-books on this subject treat of it as if the student was already a skilled physician or experimental pharmacologist. As a consequence, two classes of undergraduate readers exist. One finds that the mixture of science and empiricism is too difficult for him to fathom, and is hopelessly confused; the other simply learns the remedies and doses by heart and gives drugs with little idea as to what they are to do. Further than this, the physician is often at a loss to decide when a remedy is indicated, even though his theoretical knowledge of the subject be very thorough. Thus, he is told that ammonium chloride is a remedy in bronchitis, but the exact stage at which it is to be employed is often not stated; or he knows that digitalis does good in cases of cardiac disease, but fails to recognize the fact that it is only when compensation is lacking that the drug is needed. For this reason Part IV. has been written, not with the object of providing a rigid system for treating disease, but rather for the purpose of bringing together the best remedies, and of showing how and why they are given.

In addition to the above remarks taken from the author's preface we have much pleasure in adding our own humble opinion based upon a reference to a few of the principal articles in the book, and that

is that this work of a little over 650 pages comes nearer to our ideal of what a text book on Therapeutics ought to be than any we have yet seen in the English language. It is exceedingly practical throughout and not a line is wasted with long drawn out descriptions. By judicious condensation the size of the book has been kept within a reasonable limit without in the least sacrificing either clearness or range of subject matter. The paper, printing and binding are plain but substantial, and the price has been kept down to a figure which places it within the means of undergraduates and young practitioners who have no money to spare on large and luxurious books; while its moderate size, half of which is devoted to treatment, will recommend it to the busy practitioner who has no time to spend on bulky works of reference.

NEWS ITEM.

AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION. The 19th annual meeting will be held at Kansas City, Oct. 20th to the 24th, 1891. The Local Com. of Arrangements announces that all the Railway Passenger Associations of the county, have granted a one and one-third fare rate for the round trip on the usual certificate plan, that is: 1. Procure a certificate of attendance from the agent at the starting point by paying full fare to Kansas City. 2. Have the certificate of attendance signed by the proper officer of the Association at Kansas City. This certificate will then procure return ticket for one-third fare. All the leading hotels of Kansas City will give special rates to delegates. Arrangements are being perfected for an excursion into Kansas, as one of the features of the entertainment of the Association. For any information as to the meeting, address Dr. E. R. Lewis, Chairman; or Dr. Joseph Sharp, Sec'y. Local Com. of Arrangements. Kansas City, Mo.

ADMINISTRATION OF CHLORALAMID.

Much depends upon the proper administration of the new hypnotic, chloralamid, to obtain the full effect and satisfactory and beneficial results. The dose is from fifteen to sixty grains, with an average dose of thirty grains. Chloralamid is soluble in about twenty parts of cold water, and in one and one-half parts of alcohol.

An additional caution is necessary: Never dissolve or dispense chloralamid in hot water or warm solutions, as the heated preparation decomposes.

The best modes of administration are:

1. In a tablespoonful of whisky or brandy.
2. In properly proportioned solutions with wine, spirits or spirituous compounds.
3. In a small cup of cold water or cold tea.
4. In powder form, in wafers or cachets washed down with cold water.—*New Eng. Med. Monthly.*—*Cincinnati Med. News.*