

Notices of Books.

PRONOUNCING MEDICAL DICTIONARY :

Containing the Correct Pronunciation and Definition of Terms used in Medicine, and the Collateral Sciences; with Addenda, containing Abbreviations used in Prescriptions, and List of Poisons and their Antidotes. By C. H. CLEAVELAND, M.D. Eleventh Edition. Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia. W. C. Chewett & Co., Toronto.

THE PHYSICIAN'S DOSE AND SYMPTOM BOOK :

Containing the Doses and Uses of all the Principal Articles of the *Materia Medica* and Official Preparations; also, Table of Weights and Measures, Rules to Proportion the Doses of Medicine, Table of Poisons and Antidotes, etc., etc. By J. H. WYTHES, M.D., Author of the *Microscopist*, etc. Eighth Edition. Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia; W. C. Chewett & Co., Toronto.

THE MEDICAL FORMULARY :

Being a collection of Prescriptions, derived from the writings and practice of many of the most eminent Physicians in America and Europe, with the usual Dietetic Preparations and Antidotes for Poisons; to which is added an Appendix, on the Endermic use of Medicines, and on the use of Ether and Chloroform, with a few brief Pharmaceutical and Medical Observations. By BENJAMIN ELLIS, M.D., late Professor of Mat. Med. and Pharmacy, in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Twelfth Edition. By ALBERT H. SMITH, M.D. Henry C. Lee, Philadelphia; W. C. CHEWETT & Co., Toronto.

To Physicians who have only read of the new remedies, and who are often deterred from using them by their want of knowledge of the subject, this work is invaluable.

Communications.

To the Editor of the Dominion Medical Journal.

SIR,—I observe an extract in your last number from "The Practitioner," upon the subject of Belladonna as an application in surgical affections. Perhaps to some this recommendation, coming from the old country, will be promptly received. But, with your permission, I desire to say that this remedial agent was recommended in my "Principles of Surgery," published in the beginning of 1866, as the following quotations will show. Speaking of the treatment of Passive Congestion, upon page 104, I remark that Dr. Brown Séquard "highly recommends Belladonna in passive congestion of the spinal cord; he has found by experiments on lower animals, that it has a very decided effect upon the unstriated muscular fibre; it may be given internally,

or applied externally in the form of a plaster." I have used it to great advantage in passive congestion of the leg. In the treatment of chronic sores, I use the extract, to which is added water, so as to form a lotion." Upon page 127, I recommend it as a local application in the treatment of carbuncles. Again, page 158, I have given it as a valuable application in the treatment of indurated glands, resulting from syphilis. And again, page 189, speaking of the treatment of unhealthy ulcers, I remark, "In addition to the lotions commonly in use, I have to mention one particularly, which I have found exceedingly useful, it is a lotion of belladonna, formed by water and the extract. In some cases of obstinate, weak, and indolent ulcers of the leg, I have succeeded in healing the sore, after everything else had failed. The lotion was applied in the morning, and then a bandage applied to the limb."

The idea of using this drug in surgical affections suggested itself to my mind from reading Dr. Brown Séquard's recommendation relative to passive congestion of the spine; but I claim to have first used it in connection with surgical diseases, especially as a local application. Since I first used and recommended it, I have continued to employ it with a degree of success that nothing else has afforded. It is infinitely preferable to carbolic acid, about which so many are excited at the present time. I do not recommend any medicated lotion in a healthy wound or ulcer, knowing that nature will invariably heal if not interfered with; and am convinced that pure air possesses no element to retard the work. It is only when there is disease that carbolic acid is found useful; but belladonna is much better.

I remain, &c.,

Toronto, Feb. 17, 1869.

WM. CANNIFF.

THE LATE DR. O'DEA.

At the last ordinary meeting of the Medical Section of the Canadian Institute, the following resolutions were adopted:—

"The society having heard with regret of the death of Dr. Martin John O'Dea, one of our members, therefore,

"Resolved—That the society tender to the family of the deceased deep and heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement.

"Resolved—That out of respect to the memory of our late fellow-member, we as a society attend his funeral.

"Resolved—That a copy of these resolutions be sent to Mrs. Dr. O'Dea, and that these be published in the Toronto daily papers, and in the Dominion Medical Journal.

"Resolved—That this society do now adjourn.