

Book Reviews.

A TEXT-BOOK OF PRACTICAL THERAPEUTICS. With especial 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. Twelfth Edition. Enlarged, thoroughly revised and largely rewritten. Illustrated with 114 engravings and four colored plates. Lee Brothers & Co., Philadelphia and New York. 1907.

"When called to guide a patient through an illness, the physician should be constantly a watchman, and a therapist only when necessity arises.

"A good physician is one, who, having pure drugs, knows when to use them, how to use them, and, equally important, when not to use them. When a physician gives a drug, and the patient improves, care should be taken not to ascribe all the good results to the remedy employed. Nature must be given credit for a large part of the improvement."

Since the appearance of the eleventh edition of this book, eighteen months ago, it has been necessary to reprint it on three occasions, a fact which would seem to indicate that the text continues to meet the needs of practitioners and students. In presenting the twelfth edition the author wishes to state that he has thoroughly revised it, and in many ways endeavored to increase its usefulness. More complete information is given as to Materia Medica than ever before, and a considerable number of the recent advances in therapeutic procedure have been introduced. Thus, the value of citrate of sodium in the feeding of bottle-fed babies, the use of calcium lactate, hypodermically and by the mouth, in haemophilia, urticaria, and oozing hemorrhage is discussed. More information is given as to the best methods of treating syphilis by the hypodermic injection, and the importance of using saline solutions of exact strength for intravenous injection is emphasized. So, too, the value of citric acid for preventing thrombosis in typhoid fever is considered, as is the important subject of the danger of toxæmia after the use of chloroform and ether.

A very considerable number of drugs which have been introduced during the last two years, or which, having been introduced but a short time when the eleventh edition appeared,