

public health as in former years, yet it may well be proud of what, in the face of adverse circumstances, it has accomplished. The Report concludes with an able refutation of the absurd and groundless charges made against it; and we sincerely trust that Congress will this year have the wisdom not only to undo the folly of the past, but will also bring forth fruits meet for repentance, and greatly amplify the capacity of the National Board of Health in its life-saving, health-preserving, and, hence, money-saving mission.

Analysis of Eight Thousand Cases of Skin Diseases. By L. DUNCAN BULKLEY, A.M., M.D. (Reprinted from the *Archives of Dermatology*. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 27 and 29 West 23rd St.

The Pharmacopœia of the United States of America. Sixth Decennial Revision. By authority of the National Convention for revising the Pharmacopœia, held at Washington, A.D. 1880. New York: Wm. Wood & Co., 1882.

There are considerable differences between this and the former editions of the *Pharmacopœia*. In the working formulæ the introduction of parts by weight, and the use of a quasi decimal system are the chief changes.

The strength of the opium preparations has been changed so as to present a uniformity, all having the opium in a ratio of ten to one. Thus the acetum and the vinum have been lowered, and the tinctura and tinctura deodorata raised to the conventional standard.

A new set of preparations, termed abstracta, have been inserted. They are concentrated powdered extracts, made up with sugar of milk, and are about twice the strength of the crude drug and of the fluid extracts. In Dover's powder the potassium sulphate is replaced by sugar of milk.

A series of tables is appended to the volume, giving much necessary and useful information.

The type is remarkably clear; the paper and binding all that could be desired.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The late serious illness of Mr. Fawcett, Postmaster General of England, has been due to a combination of diphtheria and typhoid fever, a coincidence so rare that Murchison, in his vast experience, met with it but once. The distinguished patient has been under the care of Dr. Andrew Clark.

The *Canada Medical and Surgical Journal* of Montreal, in noting the proposal to establish a Hospital Medical School in Toronto, asks the question—Where is the Faculty of Medicine of Toronto University? As an answer to that question, we would refer our contemporary to the C. S. U. C., c. 62, es. 46 *et seq.*

FELINE TEST FOR DEFECTIVE SEWER PIPES.—Cats have a great fondness for the odour of valerian. So an ingenious Boston woman, suspecting some defective pipes, borrowed two cats and shut them up in the suspected room; then, having purchased some oil of valerian, poured it into the highest basin in the house, and proceeded down stairs to watch the result. She was gratified to find both manifesting a preference for a certain spot in a closet near which a waste pipe ran; and here, on further inspection, a complete separation of the pipe was discovered.

SEPARATION OF THE EPIPHYSIS OF THE CLAVICLE BY MUSCULAR ACTION.—At the Clinical Society, of London, lately, Mr. Christopher Heath brought forward a case of this kind. It occurred in a boy, aged 14, whilst raising his arm violently to bowl at cricket. The inner end of the clavicle was unduly prominent, presenting a sharp edge. The supra sternal notch was distinct, and a thin lamella was felt between it and the gap on the right side. Reduction was accomplished by laying the patient down, and retention secured by means of a plaster of paris bandage. Mr. Heath took occasion to insist strongly on the great utility of the plaster bandage in fractures of the clavicle and humerus.