

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., Professor of Therapeutics and Materia Medica in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. With special chapters by Drs. G. E. DeSchweinitz, Edward Martin and Barton C. Hirst. New (seventh) edition. In one octavo volume of 770 pages, illustrated. Cloth, \$3.75; leather, \$4.50 net. Lea Brothers & Co., Philadelphia and New York.

Few books have met with such phenomenal success as Professor Hare's text-book of Practical Therapeutics. Seven editions have appeared since its first issue in 1891, the last one (6th) being entirely exhausted in nine months. In the present edition the author has endeavoured, as in each of the others, to bring the subject matter in line with the advancement which is continually being made. The original object of his book, he states, was to present the physician and student with a well-digested and concise, yet practically careful statement of the best methods of treating disease. The book is divided into two parts. In the first remedies are discussed, and in the second diseases and their treatment. Some instructive general therapeutic considerations are taken up in the beginning, such as the modes of action of drugs and their administration; dosage; absorption of drugs; combinations for joint effects, idiosyncrasy, indications and contra-indications and definitions, incompatibilities. A table of the classifications of drugs contains some twenty-eight groups, in which the remedies in each class are placed in their order of potency, the strongest being first. The different remedies are then taken up in alphabetical order, the author deeming this arrangement better owing to the present unsettled state of pharmacology which prevents a true classification, and also to afford the reader a ready reference book. In discussing a remedy, the chemistry or method of making or procuring it is not given. Its character is briefly described, then its physiological action—poisoning, therapeutics, contra-indications, untoward effects and administration. The preparation of both United States and British pharmacopœias are given.

In the next part remedial measures other than drugs are described, and foods for the sick, such as acupuncture, antitoxine, climatic treatment, cold as a remedy, counter irritation, disinfection, entero-clysis. Heat—in this chapter the hot foot-bath and Sitz bath are described and their uses pointed out. The Russian and Turkish bath and hot pack and the bronchitis heat and localized dry heat are all fully explained. Then, hypodermoclysis, intravenous injection, kataphoresis, lavage, leeching, rest cure, mineral springs and climate, suspension, transfusion and venesection.

A useful chapter is given on foods for the sick. In the final part diseases are taken up alphabetically and their treatment given, and from Dr. Hare's well-recognized standing as one of our leading authorities in this department of medicine one is not disappointed in finding this part giving only what is practical, all useless methods being eliminated. Numerous formulæ and terse directions characterize each article. The book entirely fulfils the aims of its author to be a practical guide in the treatment of disease.