

labour to compose a prescription is removed, and the practitioner becomes a walking compendium of symptoms and formulæ of the dangerous properties of whose ingredients he is probably equally as ignorant as of their rightful use.

With the formulæ themselves we find no fault, and they bear with them the endorsement of some of the best names in the profession. Could the book be restricted to its proper sphere and legitimate use for occasional reference, it would doubtless prove of much utility and service.

*Reynolds' System of Medicine.* Volume II.  
Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea's Son & Co;  
Toronto: Hart & Rawlinson.

The second volume of the American reprint of this exhaustive work on the Practice of Medicine has been received. Like the first volume, it places within the reach of the profession all the matter of any value, up to the present time, that is to be found upon the subjects discussed, and at an extraordinarily low price.

The various local diseases, the consideration of which was commenced in the first volume, are disposed of in the second.

The diseases of the thoracic organs then come under review. In every part of this most important subject, the editor seems to have spared no pains in endeavouring to secure the views of the most advanced and intelligent thinkers; and he may fairly be congratulated upon the excellent success which has followed his efforts. We have gone over the article on Pneumonia with considerable care. In all particulars it is a most excellent and valuable compendium of the literature of the subject, as well as a very intelligent expression of the author's own views. We are pleased to note, in connection with the various forms of treatment mentioned, that the author, while not altogether ignoring the efficacy of some of the plans recommended, is not disposed to give undue prominence to any particular one. Routine, which is to be deprecated in the treatment of all forms of disease, receives small encouragement at his hands. If there be any fault in this part of the article, the one that most strikes us is the small faith placed by the

author in medication as compared with proper nourishment and good nursing; and we are not sure that, even in this particular, he is not as nearly right as any.

The next part of the volume is occupied with the consideration of some of the rarer forms of lung disease, among which are syphilitic affections of the lungs, brown induration of the lungs, cirrhosis of the lungs, and apneumotosis. Lung diseases are then concluded, with very excellent articles on Bronchitis and Pleurisy.

The remainder of the volume is occupied with the discussion of the diseases of the organs of circulation. Upon this part of the work a degree of care has been displayed in furnishing the reader with the very best thought at the disposal of the profession, which is at once creditable to the compiler and of incalculable value in a work of the kind. It may be that monographs upon special topics are in some respects the best; and if so, the value of this entire work is greatly enhanced, for the reason that it is essentially a compendium of monographs. For instance, the "weight and size of the heart" are discussed by Dr. Peacock, an eminent authority upon the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of that organ. The position and form of the heart and great vessels is then discussed by Dr. Sibson. "Lateral or partial aneurism" of the heart is then discussed by Dr. Peacock. And so, in like manner, the greatest pains have been taken to obtain not only the most recent, but the best thought on all the various questions relating to diseases of the organs of circulation.

Without reference to the question of copyright, this American reprint is a great boon to the profession.

*Our Homes.* By HENRY HARTSHORNE, A.M., M.D., formerly Professor of Hygiene, Univ. Penn., etc. Philadelphia: Presley Blakiston, 1880.

This is Number IX. of the "American Health Primers." The first five chapters have the respective headings of "Introduction," "Situation," "Construction," "Light," and "Warmth."

The chapter on "Ventilation," and the plates on p. 68 illustrative of the movements of cur-