

ume he has described the methods of treatment which he employs and which he knows "to be efficient and to be the simplest consistent with certainty in results."

Index of Medicine. By SEYMOUR TAYLOR, M.D., Member Royal College of Physicians, Senior Assistant Physician to the West London Hospital. In one large 12mo volume of 801 pages, with 35 engravings. Cloth, \$3.75. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co.

The author has prepared a work of great value alike to physicians and students. In a certain sense the name "Index" is a misnomer, for the volume is in fact a concise "Practice of Medicine," the diseases being grouped systematically in order to secure for the reader the many advantages resulting from rational arrangement. After valuable chapters on "Disease," "General Pathology," "General Diseases," "Specific Infectious Diseases" and "Specific Fevers," the various organs and systems of the body are considered, and the cause, symptoms, pathology, treatment and prognosis of each affection are succinctly stated. Numerous illustrations, together with tabulations of differential diagnosis, tests, etc., elucidate the text and condense a great amount of necessary knowledge in the clearest manner. The work is one which merits and will doubtless obtain a wide popularity.

Personal.

\$3,000 practice and village property in western Ontario for disposal. No opposition. Address, A. A. McDuff, St. Thomas, Ont.

THE PROLONGED BATH.—*Modern Medicine* says that a patient in the St. Louis Hospital was recently kept immersed in a bath tub for six weeks, for the cure of a large sloughing abscess, a current of water being constantly passed through the tub. The writer has, within the last twenty years, treated many cases of gangrene, crushed limbs, sloughing sores, etc., by this method, and has found better results than by any other. Its success is due to the asepsis secured by the constant immersion. The presence of a large quantity of water is not favorable to the development of pus-forming germs, so that suppuration is lessened, and at the same time the poisons resulting from the action of the disease germs are washed away. These poisons, when left in contact with the tissues, paralyze the living cells and destroy them, thus hindering the reparative efforts; but by the constant cleansing effected by contact of water kept pure by frequent renewal, the tissues are protected from the toxic influence of these poisons, and healthful repair is thus promoted. While in Vienna some twelve years ago, the writer found patients living in tubs of water, who had been immersed for periods varying from six months to a year or more. The cells of the body are accustomed to contact with moisture; in this respect they may even be compared to aquatic animals. The blood cells are carried by a current of watery fluid, and the tissue cells are all constantly bathed in this fluid, so that the contact of water with the living tissues is a condition closely analogous to that which is naturally maintained within the body.—*Food.*