Like so many medical treatises which have appeared in recent years, this is a composite work, nearly thirty contributors having co-operated to produce it. Materia medica is not included, and the doses and composition of preparations are also left out as far as practicable. The book, therefore, is suited, not for the ordinary student, but rather for practitioners and teachers. The first article, written by Mr. F. G. Hopkins, is on the very interesting question of the relation between chemical constitution and physiological action. Dr. J. S. Haldane follows with an article on gases, after which the various anaesthetics are discussed by Mr. George Rowell.
Reviews.

Chloroform, ether, and alcohol are next considered, and after them the cardiovascular tonics. After this, it becomes somewhat difficult to recognise the plan on which the sequence of drugs is based, but the editor himself explains this lack of system as due to the desire to keep together the various contributions of individual authors, especially with regard to drugs of minor importance. The index is intended to meet our difficulty in this matter. The article on the nitrites and organic nitrates is from the pen of the late Dr. D. J. Leech, who also wrote the paper on mineral waters. The astringent group of metals is treated of by Dr. Thomas Oliver, and, as might be expected, the subject of toxicology is fully borne in mind. Mercury and iodoform are described by Professor Shoemaker, the volatile oils by Dr. R. B. Wild, and cinchona by Professor C. R. Marshall. Dr. Hector Mackenzie writes on organotherapy, Dr. Washbourn on serum therapy, Dr. Sidney Martin on diet, the Editor on baths, massage, and venesection, and Dr. J. H. Bryant on the uses of electricity in medicine. The volume deserves a hearty welcome from all who are interested in therapeutics. It contains an immense amount of valuable matter, and may be taken up at any time, opened at any place, and read with pleasure.

Nothnagel's Encyclopedia of Practical Medicine (Saunders' English Edition). Vol. I: Typhoid and Typhus Fever. By H. CURSCHMANN. Edited, with additions, by WILLIAM OSLER, M.D. Authorised Translation from the German, under the Editorial Supervision of ALFRED STENGEL, M.D. London: W. B. Saunders & Co. 1902.

We have pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the first volume of the handsome series now in course of publication as an authorised English edition of Nothnagel's Specielle Pathologie und Therapie. The present intention is to publish in ten such volumes the most valuable part, from the practical point of view, of the great encyclopædia just mentioned, and it is intended that all these volumes shall appear within two years. The English edition, moreover, is not merely a translation from the German, but is to be enriched by the experience, and brought up to the date of publication by the annotations of the various specialists who edit the different volumes.

As Professor Osler remarks, Professor Curschmann has had
exceptional opportunities of studying typhoid and typhus fevers, and his original monograph on enteric is recognised by specialists as the standard authority on the subject. For the convenience of those to whom the German edition has been available, we may quote from Professor Osler's summary the principal changes which have been made in the English edition. The bacteriology of typhoid fever has been revised and added to, especially with regard to the distribution of the bacilli in the rose spots, urine, and blood. Many additions have been made to the chapter on pathology. The literature of the localised lesions caused by the typhoid bacillus in various parts of the body has been brought up to date. Advantage has been taken of the work of Thayer on the blood, and of Keen on the surgical complications, in enteric fever. The chapter on perforation and peritonitis, and the section on hepatic complications, have been rewritten. Additions have been made to the section on bacteriological diagnosis, and Wright's method of vaccination has been described. With the author's concurrence, the additions have been made to run continuously with the original text.

Apart altogether from the merit of Professor Curschmann's monograph, it is needless to say to our readers that a work which has passed through Professor Osler's hands, as the present one has done, must command respect and attention. Apparently, however, the American editor and his assistant, Dr. Cole, have allowed their share to merge completely in the original. The work is beyond praise, and the literary style and letterpress are themselves attractive. Three-fourths of the text are devoted to typhoid fever, and the remaining fourth to typhus. The volume closes with an index.

A Treatise on the Acute Infectious Exanthemata. By William Thomas Corlett, M.D., L.R.C.P. Lond. Illustrated by 12 Coloured Plates, 28 Half-tone Plates from Life, and 2 Engravings. Philadelphia: The F. A. Davis Co. 1901.

This is an elaborate treatise on six of the infectious fevers—viz., small-pox, vaccinia, chicken-pox, scarlet fever, measles, and German measles. Apart from the very comprehensive manner in which these diseases are described, the special feature of the work is its richness in illustrative plates, a considerable number of which are coloured. The author has
particularly borne in mind the difficulties of diagnosis in the case of the exanthemata, and the appendix contains a table giving the details by which the physician would be guided in the differential diagnosis of the affections (with the exception of vaccinia) which have been mentioned above. There are also instructions for disinfection. The work impresses us as an excellent one, and we cordially recommend it to those who are interested in the study of this very important group of diseases.

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_A Text-Book of Medicine for Students and Practitioners._
By DR. ADOLF STRÜMPPELL. Third American Edition, Translated by permission from the Thirteenth German Edition, by HERMAN F. VICKERY, A.B., M.D., and PHILIP COOMBS KNAPP, A.M., M.D., with Editorial Notes, by FREDERICK C. SHATTUCK, A.M., M.D. With One Hundred and Eighty-Five Illustrations in the Text and One Plate. London: H. K. Lewis. 1901.

This great work by the German master in medicine needs no commendation from us. Its merit is recognised in, and demonstrated by, the fact that translations have appeared in at least eight languages:—English, French, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Modern Greek, Turkish, and Japanese. Some of these translations have passed through several editions. Seven editions have appeared in Germany since the second American edition was published in 1893. As the present volume extends to more than twelve hundred closely printed pages, the translation has involved much labour, and our hearty thanks are due to those who have made available for us in so convenient a form this monument of German industry.

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_Essentials of Diseases of the Nose and Throat._ By E. BADWIN GLEASON, S.B., M.D. London: Henry Kimpton. 1901.

This book, printed in America, forms one of "Kimpton's Essential Series," arranged in the form of questions and answers. "To the recent graduate in medicine," the author says, "who wishes to take a special course in a nose and throat dispensary, a little book will probably prove more valuable than a large volume, in enabling him to acquire, _in the shortest possible time_, those rudiments of rhinology and
laryngology which are essential" to appreciate what he sees and hears in the dispensary. And, again, "the busy general practitioner who, from the force of circumstances, finds himself obliged to treat disease of the nose and throat, can find quickly here, in a condensed form, the essentials of diagnosis and treatment in any given case." The italics are ours, to emphasise the question—What more could one wish? The whole thing is as simple as looking up an A B C time-table. But condensed information picked up in a hurry is usually as quickly forgotten; and, although the information given here, in the form of replies to specific questions, is sound and to the point, the educative value of such a book is very questionable.

Impressions of a Doctor in Khaki. By Francis E. Fremantle, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. Oxon., M.R.C.P. London: John Murray. 1901.

We had occasion, in a recent review, to comment on the oracular manner in which Volunteers, who have been out in South Africa for six or twelve months, comment on the faults of the several branches of the service, and criticise the conduct of the whole operations in the field. The author of this work displays this same self-assurance in every chapter, and we are left at the end of the book with the impression that, had the management of the medical service of the army been from the first placed in his hands, all would have been well. Among the many critics of the R.A.M.C., however, it must be admitted, few had so wide and varied an experience as Mr. Fremantle of actual work in hospital and on the field. Sent out at the very commencement of the war, he was for three months on the staff of No. 1 General Hospital at Wynberg, then, as the result of the publication of some rather injudicious articles in the Guy's Hospital Gazette, he was "stellenbosched," and sent home on duty in an hospital ship. After "having it out" with the Director-General, he agreed to return to the seat of war, and was on his arrival sent up to Bloemfontein, where he was temporarily attached to the Highland Brigade Field Hospital. From this he was transferred to the Field Hospital of the 19th Brigade, and as a medical officer of that section trekked the long and weary journey to Kroonstad; from thence he travelled via Lindley and Heilbron to the Vaal, was present at the action of Doornkop, paid a flying visit to Johannesburg, and witnessed the march-past of the troops on their triumphal entry into Pretoria. Finally, he spent
three months in charge of the sick at several stations on the line from Kroonstad to the Vaal, making Wolvehock his centre. Very few civil surgeons could have had anything like Mr. Fremantle’s luck, and, to crown all, he was, after his return home, made Assistant-Secretary to the Army Medical Reorganisation Committee. We do not know if the latter appointment was conferred on the same principle as that which operates when a recalcitrant town councillor is made a bailie.

The early chapters of this book were in substance published in Guy’s Hospital Gazette, and brought down on the author the reproof of the War Office. We do not know how much modification they have undergone before publication, but are satisfied that they would have been improved by extensive excision. The quarrels of Mr. Fremantle with his chiefs of the R.A.M.C. at the hospital at Wynberg are not pleasant reading, and do not “tend to edification.” The three points on which he felt especially sore were—(1) That he discovered the officers’ wards to be without soup-tureens, and on reporting it, was reproved by the major in charge of those wards; (2) that he was expected to take the opinion of his colonel before doing major operations; and (3) that he applied to the Red Cross Commissioners for clocks for the wards, and that the colonel refused to let them be supplied. In all three respects, we think Mr. Fremantle was in the wrong. Discipline must be maintained in all departments of the army, and it is essential to that discipline that the control of the hospitals should lie with the superior officers, and that each subaltern should not be a law unto himself, whether he be a civilian surgeon or junior member of the R.A.M.C. Irrespective, however, of military discipline, we fancy Mr. Fremantle would have been as much “out of court” in regard to his three complaints in any general hospital in this country, as he was considered to be at Wynberg.

Our author writes with a flowing pen, and gives his readers no dull pages. Once away from Wynberg, he takes more charitable views of the R.A.M.C., and bears ungrudging testimony to the excellent work accomplished, both by doctors and orderlies, under most trying circumstances. The more reason, say we, for revision of the early chapters of the book.

One of the most interesting chapters is that entitled “A Day with the Boers,” where he describes an expedition he took from Wolvehock in search of a loyalist farmer, who was supposed to be wounded and a prisoner in the hands of the Boers. In order to obtain information he went from farm
to farm, and in a short time came across a Boer commando, under a man named Richard Mears, and he thus describes the appearance of the latter:—“The commandant, on the other hand, who cannot have been much over 30, was got up in every way as a British officer, and was neatly dressed, with a trim brown beard. He wore a ‘Sam Browne’ belt, and had a sword on his saddle. He was wearing the khaki serge coat of an English captain, with two stars on each shoulder-strap, and the Chitral medal on his left breast. Both ribbon and coat looked as if they had seen about three months’ service. He had Bedford-cord riding-breeches and spat-gaiters, and a brand new pair of brown boots with English spurs.” Fremantle enjoyed the society of this “swell brave” for nearly twelve hours, and his account of their conversation, and the lies Mears told, is in the very spirit and letter of romance.

In a final chapter, our author discusses (1) the medical lessons of the war; (2) the changes he considers necessary to make the Army Medical Service effective; and (3) the scheme adopted by Mr. Brodrick’s Army Medical Reorganisation Committee. Under the second head, he discusses a scheme of his own, which, if carried out, would result in the medical service of the army being carried on mainly by civilian surgeons. He even goes so far as to propose that the mobilisation of the general hospitals at the seat of war should be undertaken by the civil hospitals at home. “The civil hospitals,” he says, “St. Thomas’, for instance, Guy’s, St. Bartholomew’s, Edinburgh, Dublin, would each be ready to fit out a general hospital.” He further proposes that the military hospitals should each be managed “like a civil hospital, by a board appointed for the purpose, the administration by a non-medical officer, with regimental training, who would belong to the reformed R.A.M.C.” We do not know if he submitted this scheme to the consideration of Mr. Brodrick’s Committee, but, if so, we can understand their thinking it visionary and impracticable. We must, however, admit to so far sympathising with Mr. Fremantle, as to consider a closer relationship between civilian and military medical service essential, if we are to have a repetition of the demands which have in the past two years been made upon medical men for service in war operations.

We note a number of trivial errors which might easily have been avoided. Thus, he speaks of electric trams at Las Palmas, when no such things exist, the very primitive street trains being run by means of steam. He mentions (on p. 51) 30th October, as “the day we sailed from Southampton,” and
we turn back a few pages and find the date of sailing was the 20th of that month. Again, he is surely in error in speaking of Mr. Logan, of Matjesfontein, as a "Highlander," but perhaps he imagines every Scotsman comes from the High-lands. He is much too hard on Johannesburg when he says the "town is a wretched desert of brick and iron, without one fine building; it is a meshwork of wires, and a mass of blatant advertisements." Indeed, he seems to have repented of this judgment, for on the very next page he speaks of the civil hospital at Johannesburg as "a splendid building, in very fine grounds, and very well equipped." Lastly, it was General Charles Knox, and not General Walter Knox, who was present with General Piet de Wet at the Scottish Hospital sports on 28th July, 1900.

The book is excellently got up, and is copiously illustrated with photographs and drawings; it is very good reading, and, in spite of rash judgments and "cock-sure" opinions, is eminently worthy of perusal.

Therapeutics: Its Principles and Practice. Eleventh Edition. By Horatio C. Wood, M.D., LL.D., and Horatio C. Wood, Jun., M.D. London: Smith, Elder & Co. 1902.

It is a quarter of a century now since the first edition of this treatise was published. During this period it has already passed through ten editions. This, of itself, indicates the great value placed upon the work by students and practitioners. The plan of the book is still retained as in previous editions, and depends on the fact that the chief end in view is the setting forth of the principles of therapeutics as based on pharmacological research. It is divided into two parts, the first dealing with remedies and remedial measures, not drugs, the second with drugs. The latter, of course, constitutes the chief portion of the work.

All the remedies in this latter portion are grouped according to their chief therapeutic or pharmacological action. Thus, inorganic salts, carbon compounds, and vegetable drugs are not considered in sections as is often done in text-books. From the practitioner's standpoint, this is an advantage, though, from the student's point of view, it is doubtful, because he needs some preliminary training in materia medica. It is, however, for the advanced student and the practitioner that the book is written, and it is to be remembered, as already indicated, that it is essentially a work on therapeutics.
In the publication of this edition, father and son have become joint authors, and much labour has been expended in bringing the whole work up to date. Though the general plan of the book has been retained, yet so much has been rewritten as to constitute it in a great measure a new book.

The principal changes in the work, as the authors indicate, consist in making the various articles more closely conform to a uniform, carefully thought-out plan of presentation; in putting in small type the descriptions of the general effects produced by drugs in the lower animals, minor discussions, and other matters of less importance than those considered in the general text; in cutting out certain discussions which were necessary in the earlier editions of the book, but have lost value at this time, because of the general uniformity of professional opinion that has been reached in regard to their conclusions; in very carefully considering the language so as to obtain as great conciseness as is compatible with clearness; in taking the references out of the body of the text and putting them in nonpareil type at the end of the various chapters; in the addition of articles on a number of new drugs, and in the insertion of the approximate metric equivalents of apothecaries' weights and measures, used in giving the doses.

The preparations and the drugs correspond with those of the U.S. Pharmacopoeia, and though there would be a distinct advantage to readers in this country if references were also made to those of the British Pharmacopoeia, yet the drawback is not great, and need not be considered by one who has an ordinary knowledge of his materia medica.

We have the greatest confidence in recommending this treatise as one of the best in the English language.

ABSTRACTS FROM CURRENT MEDICAL LITERATURE.

NERVOUS DISEASES AND INSANITY.

By Dr. R. S. STEWART.

Benign Hystero-alcoholic Paralysis of the Upper Limb, By Gauraud (Archives de Neurologie, February, 1902).—The six cases here recorded were those of vigorous, muscular men in the prime of life, without neuropathic heredity, and presenting the outward appearances of excellent health. They were old alcoholics, and two of them were intoxicated a few hours before the appearance of the paralysis. In these two the paralysis