

sequence of the houses being built upon an elevated plateau; and the protection afforded by the pine woods. The residents of Bournemouth appears to be unusually free from marine cachexia, such as is prevalent at Torquay and many other English watering-places. This "marine cachexia" is said to be allied to the malarial habit, and the localities where it is most marked are peculiarly unsuited to persons who have resided in India.

*Von Ziemssen's Handbook of General Therapeutics.* In seven volumes. Vol. I, translated from the German by E. F. WILLOUGHBY, M. B. (Lond.) Vol. II, translated by MATTHEW HAY, M.D., Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, Aberdeen University. London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1855.

THIS "Handbook of General Therapeutics" is intended to form a constituent part of the series of volumes on "Special Pathology and Therapeutics." The two together to form a single whole: the survey of the state of General Therapeutics at the present time, to present the completion or complement of that of Special Therapeutics. Each part is written by a German authority, eminent in his own department of practice, and is meant to form a complete treatise on the particular therapeutic agent or method of which it treats. The first volume contains an introductory chapter by Professor H. Von Ziemssen, an essay on the Dietary of the Sick and Dietetic modes of treatment by Professor J. Baner, and an appendix on the Koumiss Cure by Dr. Stange. The second volume contains an article on Antipyretic methods of treatment by Professor C. Von Liebermeister, on Antiphlogistic methods of treatment by Professor Th. Jürgensen, and on Epidermic, Endermic and Hypodermic administration of medicines by Professor A. Eulenburg. The subjects dealt with in these two volumes are treated of in a clear and interesting manner. It is remarkable, however, that the first volume, treating of the dietary of the sick, contains no reference to the important observations of Roberts, Parkes, and other English observers, and no mention is made of artificial feeding by malt extract and pancreatin, the introduction of which, together with the vastly improved methods of administering the digestive ferments, has formed one of the most valuable therapeutic events of modern times. The second volume is more up to date; and the translator, Dr. Hay, has appended a short note on the new antipyretics, kairine, and antipyriue.

The names of the translators are a sufficient guarantee that the work of rendering the thoughts of the German authors into accurate and readable English has been done thoroughly and intelligently.

*The Vegetable Materia Medica of Western India.* By W. DYMCK, Surgeon-Major, Bombay Army; Principal Medical Store-keeper to Government; late Professor of Materia Medica, Grant College, Bombay, &c., &c. 2nd Edition, Revised and Enlarged, Part I., Bombay Education Society's Press. London: Trübner & Co., 1885.

It is only about a year ago since we noticed in the favourable terms the appearance of the first edition of this work. In this new edition much matter has been added regarding drugs hitherto unnoticed by European writers. The Makhzan-eb-Adwiya especially has furnished much material of value. This copious treatise on Materia Medica was compiled by Mir Muhammad Hussain, a native of Khorasan and pupil of Mir Muhammad Ali-el-Husaini. He resided first in Khorasan, then in Shiraz, and afterwards in India, principally at Murshidabad, in Bengal. He tells us in his preface that, in A. H. 1185 (A. D. 1771), he was persuaded to undertake the compilation of a Persian Pharmacopœia, and that when this was completed, he commenced writing Makhzan-eb-Adwiya, or "Treasury of Medicines," a work compiled from the most important of the Arabic, Persian, and Indian works on Materia Medica, supplemented by his own experience. He also tells us that he gained a knowledge of some new medicines from Europeans. We, accordingly, find Jalap, Guaiacum, &c., and even such a little known drug at the present time as Mechoacan, or white Jalap, mentioned in his work. There is ample evidence in the Makhzan that he did not accept without enquiry the statements of older writers, as, in many places, after tating the generally accepted opinion, he proves it from personal observation to be incorrect. As in all Mahometan works on Medicine and Materia Medica, we find included in his book a number of medicines mentioned by Greek and Latin writers, which are never found in Indian drug-shops, but which having been mentioned by Hippocrates, Galen, Dioscorides or Avicenna, it would be high treason to discard.

Much interesting information concerning the domestic remedies of the Concan has been gleaned from Wanaushadi Prakasha of Mr. Wasudeo Chintamon Bapat of Naringre, in the Ratnagherry Zillah.

The botanical nomenclature of the Flora of British India has been followed instead of that of the Bombay Flora of Dalzell and Gibson. References to figures of the plants have been inserted, and the information contained in Dr. G. Watt's catalogue of the economic products of India, exhibited at the Calcutta Exhibition of 1883-84, has been freely made use of.