

the character, manner of preparation, action, dose, and official preparations are appended. The principle of the *Notes* is to be commended, as the student should never overlook the essentially scientific or chemical aspect of therapeutic resources, whilst he cannot learn to prescribe without knowing more or less by rote the details of the *Pharmacopœia*. Many a young practitioner, distinguished in his student days as a prizeman in Chemistry and Clinical Medicine, finds with dismay that Squire's *Companion to the Pharmacopœia* is more serviceable to him than his old scientific textbooks. Mr. Sharman's *Notes* demonstrate how far that which is scientific is useful, and how far that which is of direct utility is also a matter of science. The *Notes* are interleaved, so that the reader may add annotations on new drugs or record his own prescriptions, as he may think proper from time to time.

Some Observations on Headaches in Children, and their Relation to Mental Training. Read in the Section of Diseases of Children at the International Medical Congress held at Washington, September, 1887. By WILLIAM HENRY DAY, M.D., M.R.C.P., Physician to the Samaritan Hospital for Women and Children. (London: J. and A. Churchill.)—The author is already well-known for his writings on headaches, and this paper displays his usual accuracy of clinical observation. Dr. Day dwells upon the significance of headache according to its locality, and rightly lays great stress on defective accommodation. We need hardly say that a great deal is said about "overpressure," but the author wisely remarks: "We must admit that enthusiasts are prone to exaggerate when they witness a few cases of breakdown, and fail to remember the thousands of children who pass through their school life happier and better for the regular hours and discipline that is maintained."

The Student's Handbook of Chemistry. By H. LEICESTER GREVILLE, F.I.C., F.C.S. Second Edition. (Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone.)—This work is clearly written and accurate in detail, but it does not appear to possess any marked advantages over the mass of chemical textbooks, unless it be the great attention which has been paid by the author to the elucidation of chemical calculations of all kinds. There are printer's errors (which suggest the need of more careful revision), such as we should not have expected to find in a second edition; for example, in a table on p. 97, the boiling point of sulphur is said to be 114° C., a misprint for fusing point.

Handbook of Modern Chemistry: Inorganic and Organic. By Dr. C. MEYMOTT TIDY. Second Edition (Smith and Elder, 1887.)—The second edition of this work is enlarged, but the same general plan is adopted as in the first. The work is written with a special view to the education of students of medicine, but may be read with advantage by all chemical students. In some respects the arrangement of Dr. Tidy differs from that generally followed; for example, hydrogen is described last of the non-metallic elements, instead of first as is usually done. Although some reason for this may be found in the metallic nature of hydrogen considered from the point of view of the chemist, there are so many obvious advantages in introducing the lightest known form of matter to the student's notice at the very commencement of his chemical studies, that the older method of classification will probably be still adhered to. There are no woodcuts or illustrations of any kind in this work, but it abounds in useful and judiciously selected tables.

REPORTS AND ANALYSES

AND

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW INVENTIONS,
IN MEDICINE, SURGERY, DIETETICS, AND THE
ALLIED SCIENCES.

DUCKER PORTABLE BARRACK AND FIELD HOSPITAL.

The chief advantage offered in these buildings is the ease of transport of the materials, and the rapidity with which they can be erected by soldiers who have no special knowledge of construction, under the direction of an officer who can superintend the work after a short examination of the system employed.

A very practical proof of the merits of the Ducker system was given on Saturday, January 21st, at the Company's establishment in Parliament Street. Dr. Walter Pearce, of the Artists' Corps, with ten volunteers belonging to ambulance detachments of several metropolitan corps, was able to take down a field hospital 35 ft. by 18 ft.,

arranged for twelve beds, in thirty-five minutes, and to re-erect it in fifty-five minutes. The work could have been done more expeditiously after the first experience. Much rain had fallen, which was a severe test of the jointing of the woodwork. The whole structure is put together in sections which do not require special position except at the two ends. The floor is well raised from the ground, and the roof has a good elevation and incline.

The material (leather board), on wooden frames, is very impervious, and would give great protection in cold climates. Lighting, heating, and ventilation are provided for, but in hot weather it would be necessary to open the sections in the roof, or replace them with canvas.

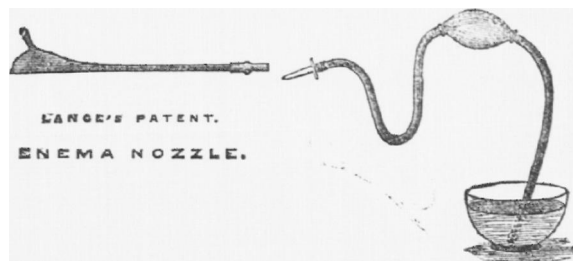
The portable houses erected in Parliament Street will repay an inspection, and have already received the favourable consideration of the War Office authorities.

PITTROFF'S ALMOND BISCUITS FOR DIABETIC PATIENTS.

THESE almond biscuits are prepared by Herr Pittroff, a German baker at Carlsbad. They are a very great improvement on any that we have examined. As a rule, almond bread and almond biscuits prepared for diabetic patients are more or less tough, nauseous, and disagreeable products, and cannot easily be used as continuous articles of diet. The formulæ most in use are those of Dr. Pavy and Professor Seegen, both of which are thoroughly reliable in their freedom from dietetic ingredients likely to be mischievous to diabetics. But the results as to texture and flavour in the hands even of the most skilled bakers, are, as a rule, very unsatisfactory. Pittroff's almond biscuits, prepared with very scrupulous care in respect to their ingredients, have the advantage of being skilfully compounded and admirably baked. They are the only article of the kind strictly suited to a rigid diabetic diet we have yet found which can be recommended without qualification. They are very delicately and slightly flavoured with saccharin, and, strange to say, for an article of diabetic food, they are positively agreeable. We have known cases in which they have been used with satisfaction for many months continuously, and they can be strongly recommended to the notice of physicians who wish to prescribe for their patients almond bread in a form which is agreeable and tolerable for long periods of time. They are forwarded by parcel post as often as desired direct by Herr Pittroff, of Carlsbad, and will be found a great addition to a strict diabetic dietary.

LANG'S ENEMA NOZZLE.

WITH a view to overcoming the difficulties experienced in the self-administration of an enema by the ordinary apparatus, Mr. H. J. Lange, of 47, Arthur Road, Tollington Road, Holloway, N., has introduced a new enema nozzle. This nozzle, which is simple in construction, can be inserted easily into the rectum with one hand without any fear of its slipping too far. With this nozzle the patient can, using any



apparatus he may happen to possess, sit all the while in a perfectly comfortable position, with both hands free to manage the injecting apparatus or syringe. Experience has proved these nozzles are easy of application and satisfactory in their action. They are made of vulcanite, and sold at a cost of three shillings and ninepence, postage paid.

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON.—The following is a list of the names of gentlemen elected as officers of the society for the year 1888, at the annual meeting of the society on the 19th inst.:—President: *William Sedgwick; Vice-Presidents: T. Buzzard, M.D., John Williams, M.D., *Herbert W. Page, *William Ewart, M.D.; Treasurer: G. P. Field; Hon. Secretaries: *M. Handfield-Jones, M.D., *C. B. Lockwood; Council: F. H. Champneys, M.B., J. Hughlings Jackson, M.D., F.R.S., J. Ernest Lane, R. S. Mair, M.D., C. W. Mansell-Moullin, R. H. Milson, M.D., A. J. Pepper, *Edmund Owen, *Frederick Treves, *Stephen Mackenzie, M.D., *E. Clifford Beale, M.B., *J. H. Drew. An asterisk is prefixed to the names of those gentlemen who did not hold the same office the preceding year.