

There are but few of these antiquities in the book however—they are but motes, for the work as a whole is both sound and satisfactory.

In the early chapters the reviewer would like to see a fuller discussion of the relation of water and the inorganic salts and to dissociation of the active ions and their action on the body tissues, a field frequently that has great practical relations to the subject of practical dietetics, especially in the treatment of some of the disordered metabolisms; Arthritis deformans, gout, diabetes, etc., in which latter subjects much of the old time empiricism is here preserved.

We can most cordially commend the work to our readers as practical and sound and would like to see it, in a future edition, brought into line with our most advanced knowledge of physiological chemistry. It would then be the superior of any of its class in the market.

PRACTICAL DIETETICS. WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO DIET IN DISEASE. By W. GILMAN THOMPSON, M.D., Professor of Medicine in the Cornell University Medical College in New York City. Second Edition. D. Appleton & Company, New York.

THOMPSON'S dietetics was in sore need of a thorough revision, for, while it was a large volume it was a most indigestible one and for a writer on dietetics to serve such a conglomeration of facts, fancies and fallacies was adding insult to injury.

We are glad to note, however, that the facts have been largely augmented in the present volume—many of the fancies still remain and give the work what semblance of individuality it possesses and most of the fallacies have been eliminated.

The work is really a very excellent one and is marred only by its too great leaning on statistical facts, the relation of which is in many instances lost. The first table that caught the reviewer's eye was that of König's on mushrooms. König is of course the main prop of all modern writers on dietetics when they would seek their chemical underpinning, but one must know about variations and different varieties of plants and animals or else König's figures are sadly misinterpreted. The author's statement about truffles being a vegetable is interesting and his characterization of poisonous fungi as being warty is more than amusing; it is farcical.