A Handbook of Medical Climatology. Embodying Its Principles and Therapeutic Application, with Scientific Data of the Chief Health Resorts of the World. By S. Edwin Solly. M.D., M.R.O.S., late President of the American Climatological Association. Illustrated in black and colors. (Lea Brothers & Co., Philadelphia and New York, 1897.)

A book condensing and systematizing an enormous amount of human experience and acute observation, by trained medical men, on numberless cases of actual disease as influenced by climate-truly a climatology, giving to the "ology" half of the word its broadest signification. introduction truly says: "If we consider how great a sacrifice of time, money, inclination and affection is involved, where an invalid, under direction of a physician, leaves his home and journeys into another and perhaps a far country, we marvel at the small amount of thought and study that is bestowed upon the science of climatology, for without a fair knowledge and appreciation of this no rational selection of climate can be made."

Seventy years ago the one recommendation of the physician to a patient far advanced in consumption was "go South," or "seek a warmer climate," but now it is recognized that these prescriptions are wholly faulty for many cases, and it has been discovered that often the warm climate is exactly wrong. Now a science of climatology has been built up by hundreds of observations as to the effect of different climates, until a set of general principles has been deduced, founded on a study of the patient in every stage of disease and every condition of life, till a rational selection can be made. The study of these cases demonstrates two thingsviz.: that the majority of consumptives do better, other things being equal, the further they are removed from the sea, and that they do better in high than in low altitudes.

Should a man suffering from any one of the diseases of the respiratory tract—phthisis, asthma, bronchitis, etc.—read this book he would

realize the folly of rushing off to Denver or Colorado Springs because he has known of cases that were cured or improved there; he would insist on a climatological study of his symptoms, and not waste his ill-spared vital force on a journey at the end of which he is liable to be told to hasten otherwhere by an intelligent student of climate and disease in their true relations.

It is pleasant to learn, through reports from competent medical men, covering every part of the known world, that on our own continent are to be found climates adapted to every type and stage of lung disease—the best climatic advantages of the Alps can be found, in an improved form, because available all the year round, in the ranges and plains and valleys of the Rocky Mountains; conditions similar to those of Egypt prevail in the deserts between El Paso in Texas and the Paim Springs of Mohave (California), while the much vaunted Riviera is outdone, in less rainfall and less discomfort from harsh winds, in Southern California. The special advantages or drawbacks of every health resort are canvassed, and to every invalid who is meditating a change of climate we should say: "Read this book before you select, for into it is condensed the experience of hundreds of physicians, who appreciate the fact that in the early stages of pulmonary disease no other treatment is equal to the selection of a right climate, whereby many an incipient case has been wholly arrested."