

ducting tissues, instead of supporting tissue; and on the same page, he states that wood fibres are thicker-walled than bast fibres, whereas the opposite is most often true. Again on page 133, where he describes "parasitic plants as those which gain their nutrients by burrowing into the tissues of other plants, they are usually lacking in root hairs, but absorption of water may take place in this type of plants through the modified epidermis of the aerial roots which are usually present." On page 27, he calls the converging concavo-convex lens, a convexo-convex lens, which really is another name for the double convex lens; and the diverging concavo-convex lens he calls a concavo-concave lens, which is another name for the double concave lens. There are other such "slips," but the above will suffice. Rather unwise indeed, it seems to the reviewer, to put a book of this kind in the hands of the unsuspecting beginner in vegetable histology.

CHARLES C. PLITT.

The following four reviews are by Otto Raubenheimer.

A Handbook of Elementary Chemistry for Students of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy. By J. C. ATRIX, M.S., D.D.S., M.D., Pharm. D., 2d Edition, 12 mo. 278 pp. Cloth, \$3.00. Lea & Febiger, 600 S. Washington Square, Philadelphia.

The author is Professor of Chemistry and Toxicology in the Medical and Pharmaceutical Departments of Temple University and consequently writes with some authority. This little book is not intended to displace the larger works on chemistry, but is planned for the student as a handy little reference book and as the title states, "A Handbook of Elementary Chemistry."

Part I, on 72 pages, deals with Physics, Chemical Philosophy and Laboratory Methods.

Part II, on 148 pages, comprises the Elements and their Compounds.

Part III, on 44 pages, contains Qualitative Analysis.

The 23 illustrations help to elucidate the text. On p. 106 the author correctly states that the name Bromine is derived from the Greek word "bromos" meaning "stench." On p. 77 he states, incorrectly, that ozone means "stench." This should be corrected as its discoverer C. F. Schoenbein at Basel named this allotropic form of oxygen "Ozone" from the Greek "ozein" meaning "to smell." After all, there is a difference between "smell" and "stench."

Aus dem Reiche der Drogen. Geschichtliche, Kulturgeschichtliche und Botanische Betrachtungen über wichtige Drogen. VON DR. E. GILG UND DR. P. N. SCHÜRHOFF. 272 pp. cloth \$3.50. Schwabeck-Verlag. Dresden N. 6, and B. Westermann Co., 13 W. 46th St., New York City.

Never in the course of history has History itself been so generally popular as it is to-day. This also pertains to history of Pharmacy. May I remind the readers of the foundation of the Society for History of Pharmacy and the publication of Prof. LaWall's excellent book, "Four Thousand Years of Pharmacy." Truly two achievements within a short period to be proud of.

The volume before us is from the pen of two professors of botany and pharmacognosy at the University of Berlin. It treats the history, the botany and pharmacognosy of the principal drugs, as for instance: Cinchona, Glycyrrhiza, the Solanaceae, Strophanthus, Nux Vomica, Sambucus, Cannabis, Yohimbe, Guaiac, Sarsaparilla, Rhubarb, Opium and Cantharides. Truly a variety of subjects of interest to pharmacists. The book is profusely illustrated, some of which I beg to point out: Collection of Pepper, p. 91, Corigliano Licorice Factory, p. 138. Preparation of Curare by South American Indians, p. 173. Smoking Haschisch, p. 193. Monardes, p. 216. Schleiden, p. 217. Leuwenhoek, p. 221. Collection of Opium, p. 250, Sertiirner, p. 254. Opium Pipes, p. 250.

The volume contains a mint of knowledge. It is a story which will not only stimulate but inspire every pharmacist, a story which gives an accurate account of the evolution of these drugs, a story which gives the pharmacist a better insight and a bigger grasp on his profession. Every pharmacist who is interested in his profession should read this book.

Science: The False Messiah. By C. F. AYRES. 8 vo. 296 pp. Cloth \$3.00. The Bobbs-Merrill Co., 18 E. Vermont St., Indianapolis.

Here is a brilliant book by a brilliant young philosopher, who has taught this subject at Brown, Chicago, Amherst and Reed Universities. He has something to say in this book that is better to the scientists and to a civilization that worships science. Like the reformer Luther, he proposes 23 (mark the number) Theses to be mailed to the Laboratory Door, some of which I want to point out:

1. That the truth of science is established