

directions are given for the ordinary routine manipulations, but stress is laid on the special points which come up in water analysis. Here the book is full enough for all needs, but its most valuable feature is the discussion of the conclusions which may be drawn from the results of bacterial tests. This is, of course, the most difficult part of the whole problem and it must be said that the authors deserve credit for the conservative manner in which they discuss questions still in dispute.

J. H. LONG.

THE AMERICAN YEAR-BOOK OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY FOR 1904. Volume I. Including general medicine. Octavo, 673 pages. Philadelphia, New York, and London: W. B. Saunders & Co. 1904. Cloth, \$3.00 per volume.

In former years attention has been called to this valuable compilation, which is under the general editorial charge of Dr. George M. Gould. The reviews of work in physiological chemistry, prepared by Dr. Walter Jones and Dr. Reid Hunt, of Baltimore, and those in legal medicine by Dr. John Marshall and Dr. J. H. W. Rhein, of Philadelphia, will be found of most interest to chemists. But several of the other departments treated will also be found of interest in view of the increasing influence of chemistry on the discussions of internal medicine. The Ehrlich "side-chain theory" is a good illustration. Much of the matter in the section on physiology is largely chemical.

J. H. LONG.

THE VEGETABLE ALKALOIDS, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THEIR CHEMICAL CONSTITUTION. BY DR. AMÉ PICTET, Professor in the University of Geneva. From the second French edition. Rendered into English, revised and enlarged, with the author's sanction, by H. C. BIDDLE, PH.D., Instructor in the University of California. New York: John Wiley & Sons. 1904. vi + 505 pp. Price, \$5.00.

This little book, written by Pictet, has been much in use on the Continent, and has become known everywhere to those giving attention to the chemistry of the alkaloids. It has stood almost alone as a brief summary of the constitution of vegetable alkaloids, separate from other matter. The second edition by the author, "La Constitution chimique des Alcaloides végétaux," in 421 pages, appeared in 1897, and is the edition that Dr. Biddle has "rendered into English, revised and enlarged," as stated on the title-page, "with the author's sanction."