NEW BOOKS.

A LABORATORY MANUAL, CONTAINING DIRECTIONS FOR A COURSE OF EXPERIMENTS IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY. SYSTEMATICALLY ARRANGED TO ACCOMPANY REMSEN'S ORGANIC CHEMISTRY. BY W. R. ORNDORFF, A. B., PH.D., ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY IN CORNELL UNIVERSITY. D. C. Heath & Co. 12mo.

This book, printed on one side of the paper only, to leave room for notes evidently, contains directions for eighty-two experiments, beginning with "Fractional Distillation" and ending with "Alizarin." The apparatus used is as simple as the nature of the work will allow and the questions asked or indicated by means of an interrogation mark seem to be judicious. The directions bear evidence of having been tried carefully in practice. The absolute necessity for this would seem to be self-evident, but I venture to say that in very many books of the kind it has nevertheless not been done—so much the worse for the unlucky student who repeatedly endeavors to do the impossible because his authority is good. It cannot be too strongly insisted upon that such books ought either to be put together conscientiously or not at all. E. H.

THE PHARMACOPŒIA OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. SEVENTH DECENNIAL REVISION (1890). Official from January 1, 1894. Published by the Committee of Revision. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company. Agents, P. Blakiston, Son & Co. 1893.

The Pharmacopœia of the United States has become a book of considerable dimensions—602 pages.

The metric system has been employed throughout the volume, the solids by weight and the liquids by measure. Of the coal tar antipyretics, acetanilid is the only one admitted, because the others are either made by a patented process or their names have a proprietary right. Among the articles added to the Pharmacopœia I notice peroxide of hydrogen, convallaria, cocaine, hyoscine, sparteine, strontium bromide, and pepsin (1 : 3000). The terminal "e" is retained for chlorine, cocaine, bromide, *et altera*. Instead of writing chloride of sodium, or nitrate of silver, the committee make it sodium chloride, silver nitrate, and so on, putting the base first. In the case of the salts of iron and mercury this change involved the use of the respective