modes of preparation and combination of the chief nutritive grains, for common use and the wants of the invalid.

In conclusion, we would recommend the work to the notice of our readers, as one calculated to impart more correct information as to the actual dietetic value of the various articles employed by mankind as well for food as drink, than can be acquired from most if not all the treatises upon diet and regimen which have preceded it.

D. F. C.

ART. XVII.—*Guide du médecin praticien ou résumé général de pathologie interne et de thérapeutique appliquées.*

The Practitioner's Guide: a Practical Compendium of internal Pathology and Therapeutics.—By F. L. J. VALLEIX. Paris, 1841, Nos. 1 and 2.

THE author has undertaken the present work in the hope of supplying a want in medical literature which all practical physicians must have experienced. For many years past the medical journals of every country have been filled with accounts of experiments in therapeutics conducted with great care and productive of important results, but so scattered through the records of periodical literature, that few physicians have either the time or the patience to study them critically, or even to read them at all. M. Valleix has undertaken the interesting but very laborious task of bringing together all the information about internal diseases and their treatment which he could find dispersed throughout the works, both large and small, of all countries and ages; not as a mere compiler however, nor in such a way as to perplex his readers with a long list of opinions or receipts, but by a critical examination of doctrines and precepts, to establish such principles as are adapted to the present state of medical science and art.

This work differs from previous ones in the pains taken by the author to point out the diagnosis of each affection in so clear a manner as almost to prevent the possibility of mistaking it, by placing in contrast upon opposite sides of the page the prominent symptoms of diseases liable to be confounded, so that their distinctive characters may be seen at a glance. The excellence of this expedient must recommend it to every practitioner, for although it is not intended to take the place of a more philosophical study of diagnostic signs, but rather to suggest and encourage such study, it refreshes the memory of the scientific man, and gives method to his knowledge, while it saves from the commission of serious errors those who are either ignorant of the principles of medicine, or too indolent to apply them to practice.

The therapeutic department of the work gives evidence of great research, and of sound judgment in appreciating the value of the several modes of treating each disease, whether they have been submitted to the test of experiment, or merely recommended by writers of authority. The indications to be fulfilled are deduced from a minute study of the diagnosis of the disease, and the treatment adapted to it is clearly pointed out, not only in general terms, but in a detailed account of the most efficient remedies, and the best mode of prescribing them. The frequent charge of feebleness urged against the practice recommended in French works of practical medicine, does not seem to be applicable to that enforced in the present one, if we may judge from the two numbers of it before us. These refer to certain diseases of the nasal cavities, viz: epistaxis, coryza, and ozæna, in their several varieties and complications; the treatment of each is discussed at greater length, more methodically, and, we think, more satisfactorily than in any English treatise with which we are acquainted. If the succeeding essays correspond to these in exactness and completeness, practitioners will have reason to thank M. Valleix for having assumed a task which very few could have been found to execute so skilfully, and the performance of which was loudly called for by the exigencies of medical art.

A. S.