

fiction, and Mr. Watkins' case must rest mainly on his intermediate points. These he finds in mounds, moats, tumps, churches (occupying the site of an earlier mark), stones, trees, and camps, holy wells, and the like. Place-names are also called in to support his argument. Without entering into a detailed examination of his evidence, which the reader may do with the aid of an Ordnance map, it may be said generally that in some cases the so-called sighting marks were the objective of the road as in the case of a holy well or a ford, and that others, such as a burial mound or an encampment, owed their position to the previous existence of a road.

*Poverty and its Vicious Circles.* By Dr. Jamieson B. Hurry. Second and Enlarged Edition. Pp. xvi + 411. (London: J. and A. Churchill, 1921.) Price 15s. net.

THE first edition of this detailed study of poverty was published before the war. In this second and enlarged edition the general plan of the work remains unaltered, but the author has revised and extended the original chapters and has written several new ones. Further, he has viewed his subject more from the international standpoint. His "vicious circles" are the various elements entering into the causation and perpetuation of poverty which aggravate or intensify the causes out of which they grew by lowering the standard of life and efficiency. Dr. Hurry describes in detail the effect of such factors as defective housing, defective feeding, defective clothing, defective education, defective credit, unemployment, insecurity, and the like. Each is considered separately, it being a part of the author's theory that each factor must be diagnosed and attacked in isolation; but the interaction of the circles one with another is both recognised and considered. The last portion of the book deals with remedial measures and gives a useful historical survey of poor relief under the State and by local authorities, and of the scope and objects of a number of private or semi-public voluntary organisations.

*Plant Materials of Decorative Gardening: The Woody Plants.* By Prof. Wm. Trelease. Second Edition, Revised. Pp. xliii + 177. (Urbana, Ill.: The Author, University of Illinois, 1921.) 1 dollar.

By the help of this handy little volume a careful observer, who will make himself acquainted with the technical terms as explained in the glossary at the end of the book, may learn the name of any hardy tree, shrub, or woody climber that he is likely to find cultivated in the eastern United States—apart from the extreme south—or in northern Europe, except on the more pretentious estates, or in nurseries or botanical establishments. It accounts for 1150 distinct kinds, representing 247 genera and 782 species. For a few hopelessly complicated genera, such as haws, cotoneasters, and roses, only the most easily recognised species have been admitted. By means of a dichotomous key, divided into four sections—trees, bushes, undershrubs or bog or rockery plants, and woody climbers or scramblers—the name of the genus may be determined. The greater part of the book is occupied by a systematic description of the genera under their families, and under each genus is given a key to the species.

*Common Plants.* By Dr. M. Skene. (Common Things Series.) Pp. 271 + 26 plates. (London: Andrew Melrose, n.d.) 6s. net.

DR. MACGREGOR SKENE has produced a very readable series of essays, written in thirty-three chapters around different common plants, which are made the texts for a popular presentation of many of the problems and achievements of the modern study of plants. In the opening sections the themes of plant nutrition and the world's food supply are grouped around the wheat plant. Other chapters treat, for the popular reader, the various groups of plants, while still others are concerned with the rise of a land flora and various problems of the inter-relations of plants and animals, water supply, reproduction, and the relations of plants to man. The paper is unfortunately of poor quality, but the essays are excellently informed and attractively written, with lucid style and a human point of view.

*Scientific Management in the Home: Household Engineering.* By Mrs. Christine Frederick. (Efficiency Books.) Pp. 527. (London: George Routledge and Sons, Ltd., 1920.) Price 12s. 6d. net.

THERE is no place where the application of science is more desirable than in the home, and none where it is more commonly neglected. Mrs. Frederick, whose work is already known in this country through her connexion with *The Ladies' Home Journal*, here presents the story of her success in managing her own home. Science is to be found pleasantly blended with common sense in the pages of this book, which is to be recommended to the notice of private individuals as well as to those who are concerned with the teaching of domestic economy.

*Précis de physiologie végétale.* Par Prof. L. Maquenne. (Collection Payot.) Pp. 175. (Paris: Payot et Cie, 1922.) 4 frs.

THE author of this little book is a professor at the Museum d'Histoire naturelle in Paris, and here reproduces in simple, lucid, and attractive form the substance of a course of lectures given at the Museum for more than twenty years. The subjects briefly treated include osmosis, colloids, germination, growth, assimilation, respiration, etc. The definition of such terms as osmosis and colloid are not above criticism, but any one with no previous knowledge of the subject should find it an attractive and, on the whole, an accurate presentation of the general features of plant physiology.

*Dictionary of Botanical Equivalents: French-English, German-English.* By Dr. E. Artschwager and E. M. Smiley. Pp. 137. (Baltimore, Md.: Williams and Wilkins Co., 1921.) n.p.

THIS little dictionary of botanical terms should prove useful, especially for students. It is nearly all German, only 15 pages being devoted to the French-English portion. The pages are interleaved, so that additional terms can be entered at any time. The explanations given are not always happily chosen or accurate. Thus *zeitlicher Dimorphismus* is rendered "polymorphy."