deserve a place. In the index the reference after Durkik should be 252 instead of 352. In addition to the errors in the first edition of the Principia, mentioned in Nos. 6 and 7, it may also be noted that the woodcut on page 22 is upside down, in some copies at least, as in one owned by Professor Hallock. The book is clearly printed and well indexed. It is needless to add that it deserves a place in every mathematical library.

<div align="right">DAVID EUGENE SMITH.</div>

A Scrap-Book of Elementary Mathematics. Notes, Recreations, Essays. By WILLIAM F. WHITE. Chicago, The Open Court Publishing Company, 1908. 8vo. 1 plate. 248 pp.

IT is the right of every author to ask that reviewers judge his book only by the standard that it professes. If it pretends to be an exhaustive treatise, then the critic may justly claim that it falls short of what its readers have a right to expect if it contains more than the allowable maximum of errors or if the author displays ignorance of the work of his chief predecessors. If, on the other hand, it pretends to little, then it is proper to lower this standard, reserving the right to criticise the writer for not using his talents to better purpose. These or similar thoughts will probably occur to more than one reviewer who lays down Dr. White's readable little book after spending the short time necessary to enjoy its contents. Pretending, as its name implies, to be merely a scrap-book, and written only for high-school pupils or for tyros in the teaching profession, it is by its very nature immune to serious criticism. Given a few well-known histories of mathematics and books of recreations in the same domain, such a work is easily constructed. If it has errors, these are attributable to the source material; if the bibliography is meagre, the nature of the book does not warrant one that is more extensive; if the selection is not the absolute best, the readers to whom the book appeals are all the more pleased; if the arrangement shows little system, this is only what may be expected of a " Scrap-book of mathematics."

Some idea of the scope of the work may be obtained from the following list of certain of the topics treated : Numeration of large numbers, Numerical curiosities, Tests of divisibility, Miscellaneous notes on number, Numbers arising from measurement, Compound interest, Arithmetic in the renaissance, Geometric puzzles, Magic squares, Alice in the wonderland of