

TREATISE ON GENERAL AND INDUSTRIAL INORGANIC CHEMISTRY. By Dr. Ettore Molinari, Professor of Industrial Chemistry to the Society for the Encouragement of Arts and Manufactures, and of Merceology at the Commercial University, Luigi Bocconi, at Milan. Third Revised and Amplified Italian Edition Translated by Dr. Ernest Feilmann, B. Sc., Ph. D. F. I. C., with 280 Illustrations in the Text, one Chromolithographic Plate and Two Phototype Plates. Large octavo XVI+704 pages. Cloth, \$6 net. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia.

The immense strides made in the industrial applications of chemistry during the past quarter of a century have provided chemical teaching with fresh inspiration and have imparted to it a new direction.

If formerly there was a sufficient excuse for the teaching of "pure chemistry" divested of all reference to its practical applications, this excuse has been greatly lessened, if not entirely removed. Whether chemistry is pursued as a cultural study merely, or as a part of the preparation for a professional vocation, the student will fall far short of deriving the full benefit of his labors if the general subject be divorced from ample and frequent consideration of its practical applications.

The above views form the groundwork of the plan of Dr. Molinari's treatise, which may be regarded as an attempt to develop the theories and principles of inorganic chemistry from the industrial and practical standpoint, i. e., instead of considering the science independently of its practical applications, or making only brief and occasional reference to them, its industrial and professional applications furnish a foundation for the consideration of the science.

In the art of imparting instruction there is no factor more important than the enlisting of the student's sympathy in his subject as an assistant to his purely intellectual efforts, and there is no more potent method of enlisting this sympathy than by showing him the use and importance of his subject in the world's life which he is preparing to enter.

Considered from this standpoint alone, Dr. Molinari's treatise must be regarded as a noteworthy and valuable contribution to the list of college text-books on chemistry.

Of course, no chemical treatise that is not encyclopedic in compass can be said to approach completeness, but the treatise under review can be fairly said to include the major portion of the chemical facts and theories that can be profitably considered in a volume of its size and professed scope.

In cases where the views or explanations of the author are not likely to meet with general acceptance by chemists, the translator has also assumed editorial functions, and has interpolated appropriate comments that add materially to the usefulness of the volume.

The illustrations are sufficiently numerous. Most of them are good, and many of them are new in texts printed in English. The paper, type and binding are satisfactory, and the volume is a fair sample of the bookmaker's art as exemplified in college text-books.

J. H. BEAL.