

Miscellaneous.—509,396, November 28, Pennington, John C., retting bath for flax, composed of water, caustic potash, ammonia, sodium phosphate, magnesium sulphate, and manganese chloride. 508,015, November 7, Hoffman, H., removing bitterness from kola powder by treatment with hydrogen peroxide. 509,617, November 28, pharmaceutical compound; made from three parts of iodine and one part of meta cresotinic acid. 508,608, November 14, Etheridge, R. L., rosin, made by distilling crude turpentine and bluing. 509,209, November 21, Draper, J., scale is removed from boilers by a composition of water, mercury, sodium, or potassium, and sodium carbonate under heat and pressure. 509,280, November 21, Ash, T. M., to coat non-metallic articles; first cover, with a carrying medium and finely divided metal then treat with silver nitrate. 508,560, November 14, Briersdorf, P. C., treatment of gutta percha, treating with solvent to obtain uniform qualities. 509,460, November 28, Weinrich, M., revivifying spent bone black by impregnating with hot solution of gelatin, drying and charring. 509,589, November 28, Watel, E., process for purifying fatty matters, remaining after essential oils are extracted. 508,469, November 14, Cross, A. K., crayon for polished surfaces; composed of "ozokerite, coloring matter, glycerol, aga aga, and soapy materials." 508,777, November 14, Stearns, T. C., toilet soap; made from soap stock with sufficient almond meal to neutralize free alkali. 509,049, November 21, Schicht, J., soap; caustic alkali is heated to 135°C., fat is heated separately to 100°C., and the heated fat is injected into the hot alkali in fine jets and agitated.

NEW BOOKS.

A SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CHEMISTRY, 1492-1892. BY HENRY CAR-
RINGTON BOLTON. (Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 36.)
Octavo, pp. XIII, 1212.

It is not too much to say of this book that one of greater usefulness to the chemist has not appeared within the last twenty-five years. The titles are given under the following heads: I, Bibliography, pp. 1-37; II, Dictionaries and Tables, including Nomenclature, pp. 38-84; III, History of Chemistry, pp. 84-170; IV, Biography, including Bibliographies of Individuals, pp. 171-257; V, Chemistry, Pure and Applied, pp. 258-942; VI, Alchemy, pp. 943-1067; VII, Periodicals, pp. 1068-1164; Adenda and Subject-Index, pp. 1165-1212. Titles in twenty-five languages are catalogued. Of these the titles of German books are most numerous; then come English, French, Latin, Italian, Dutch, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish. The other languages

have less than 100 titles each. Several languages are poorly represented—Finnish, Gujerathi, Hebrew, Hindi, Rumanian, and Welsh have but one each. For most of us, however, this single title will be one too many. The total number of titles indexed is 12,031, of which 273 belong to I, 327 to II, 730 to III, 979 to IV, 8,206 to V, 1,046 to VI, and 470 to VII.

Of Section V, Chemistry, Pure and Applied, Dr. Bolton says: While it "is more extensive than the other six combined, it is the least satisfactory to the editor. Besides pure chemistry it comprises works in every department of chemistry applied to the arts, but not works on the arts themselves; thus agricultural chemistry, but not agriculture; pharmaceutical chemistry, physiological chemistry, etc., find place, but not the sciences of pharmacy and medicine. It is, of course, often impossible to draw the line sharply, and in doubtful cases the tendency has been to include rather than exclude; hence many works on technology are included especially when chemistry lies at their foundation. It is probable, however, that this has not been done uniformly, owing to the difficulty of selection.

"Readers should not expect to find in this section complete lists of the works of a given author: though some pains have been taken in the case of prominent men to catalogue their writings fully (see under Berzelius, Fresenius, Liebig, Johnston, Orfila, Stockhardt, etc). The names of many eminent chemists will be found wanting in Section V, simply because they have published no independent works, although voluminous contributors to periodicals."

The place of publication has been given whenever it could be ascertained but in many cases, perhaps in the majority of cases, not the name of the publisher. In many cases, too, the number of pages is not given—probably it could not be ascertained.

The value of the book is greatly increased by an admirable subject-index.

E. H.