

indium line; but on closer examination it proved to be the strontium line. The indium and strontium lines lie close together. The line which I found had a wave-length of  $4.61 \times 10^{-5}$ , corresponding to the line  $Sr\beta$ ; whereas the indium lines are  $In_{\alpha}$   $4.51 \times 10^{-5}$  and  $In_{\beta}$   $4.10 \times 10^{-5}$ .

The acid solution, neutralized with sodium carbonate, gave a white precipitate; on drying, a yellow powder was obtained, which proved to be calcium carbonate. Zinc was not present.

#### SCHEELITE FROM BOHEMIA.

A pure specimen of this mineral was subjected to the same treatment as has been described. The same results were obtained. No indium could be detected and the absence of zinc was proved.

The care exercised in the selection of material, and the large quantities employed, while working with every precaution, would seem to justify the conclusion that indium cannot be regarded as an associate of tungsten in its natural derivatives; that most probably the suspicion of Hoppe-Seyler in regard to its origin, *viz.*, blende, is correct, for it was only in the Zinnwald specimen that I could detect it.

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#### NEW BOOKS.

**EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS.** The Phenomena and Theories of Explosion and the Classification, Constitution, and Preparation of Explosives. By 1ST LIEUT. JOHN P. WISSER, 1st Art., U. S. A. New York: D. Van Nostrand Company. 1898. Price, 50 cents.

This little book, which is issued as No. 70 in Van Nostrand's Science Series, bears the same leading title as the No. 70 of this series issued in 1883, but, while the contents of the 1883 edition consisted of a translation of "Berthelot's Lecture on Explosive Materials" by Dr. Marcus Benjamin, a translation of "Braun's Historical Sketch of Gunpowder" by Lieut. John P. Wisser, and a "Bibliography of Works on Explosives" by W. H. Farrington, the present edition contains an original essay by Lieut. Wisser only, which is based upon the lecture of Berthelot, but, which includes the more recently adopted theories, and much descriptive matter. Where considerable space is given to the display of graphic formulas of substances used in the manu-

facture of explosive materials, it is obviously impossible to give any lengthy descriptions of processes of manufacture in 145 small pages of a pocket volume, such as this is, yet the author has contrived to put a very large amount of reliable information between its covers, and his descriptions, though brief, are clear and accurate. It is greatly to be regretted that the publishers have not done their part as well as the author has done his, and that the volume should be marred by typographical errors while its general make-up is quite unattractive. Nevertheless the book may be recommended as a useful one to keep at hand as a ready reference work on this important subject.

CHARLES E. MUNROE.

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### BOOKS RECEIVED.

Commercial Organic Analysis. By Alfred H. Allen. Vol. I. Introduction, Alcohols, Neutral Alcoholic Derivatives, Sugars, Starch, and its Isomers, Vegetable Acids, etc. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co. 1898. xii + 557 pp. Price \$4.50.

A Text-book of Elementary Analytical Chemistry, Qualitative and Volumetric. By John H. Long, M.S., Sc.D. Chicago: E. H. Colegrove. 1898. viii + 278 pp. Price \$1.50.

The Discharge of Electricity through Gases. Lectures delivered on the occasion of the sesquicentennial celebration of Princeton University by J. J. Thomson, Professor of the University of Cambridge. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1898. x + 203 pp. Price \$1.00.

The Characters and Methods of Assay of the Official Hypophosphites and a Note on the Mydiatic Alkaloids. By H. A. D. Jowett, D. Sc. The Wellcome Research Laboratories, Snow Hill, London, E. C., England. 20 pp.

Cultivation of Tobacco in Sumatra. By Emile Mulder. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 39 pp.

Report on an Investigation of Analytical Methods for Distinguishing between the Nitrogen of Proteids and that of the Simpler Amids or Amido-Acids. By J. W. Mallet. With a chapter on the Separation of Flesh Bases from Proteid Matters by Means of Bromine. By H. W. Wiley. Bulletin No. 54. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Chemistry, Washington, D. C. 1898. 30 pp.

Ores of Nova Scotia. Gold, Lead, and Copper. By E. Gilpin, Jr., M.A., LL.D., F.R.S.C., etc. Halifax, N. S.: Commissioner of Public Works and Mines. 1898. 46 pp.