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The members of the committee have been provided with blanks and explanatory circulars, and have already sent out many to persons likely to contribute. It is hoped that all members of the American Chemical Society will feel interested in the project and will assist liberally. It should be stated that every dollar contributed will be sent to the treasurer of the fund, M. Gauthier-Villars, at Paris, as all expenses attending the collection here will be defrayed by the members of the committee.

J. H. LONG.

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### NEW BOOKS.

CHEMISTRY FOR ENGINEERS AND MANUFACTURERS. BY BERTRAM BLOUNT and A. G. BLOXAM. VOL. II. CHEMISTRY OF MANUFACTURING PROCESSES. 8 vo. 484 pp. 1896. London: Charles Griffin & Co., L't'd. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. Price, \$2.50.

The first volume of this work, issued early in 1896, has been

reviewed in this Journal, 18, 745. The second volume is double the size of the first and contains, besides an index, a bibliography. In the latter we notice several books by American authors, but, unfortunately, many are wanting. Thus Sadtler's admirable work on "Industrial Organic Chemistry," which gives many processes connected with the topics treated of in the work before us is not mentioned. Yet the authors have endeavored to make the book attractive to American readers, and frequent references are made throughout to our methods and processes. The work is illustrated by over forty cuts and the general make up in type and paper is excellent.

There are eighteen chapters, and both inorganic and organic products, and their manufacture, are treated of.

Under the alkalies we notice an outline of the electrolytic preparation of caustic and other products, while the Solvay and LeBlanc processes receive their due share of attention.

Under the head of destructive distillation, water gas, and the enriched water gas used as an illuminant are very briefly considered. These processes do not find favor in England, though they have been greatly perfected there. Acetylene receives notice, but its position toward illuminating gas when manufactured from calcium carbide is still under trial. The enrichment of coal gas is on the increase, however, since we have a record of thirty candle power, as furnished to Edinburgh, and nearly as high to other towns. The enrichment of gas will undoubtedly be more generally practised the more gas is used as fuel, since the heating value is increased per cubic foot used, by the increase of combustible, due to added hydrocarbons.

The utilization of "basic slag" as a fertilizer is given space and a figure of the ball grinding mill used to reduce the slag to a fine powder is inserted. The Siemens tank furnace for glass manufacture is described and a figure showing cross section given. Very brief mention is made of the newer glasses for optical, thermal, and other scientific and industrial uses, whose manufacture in Germany has marked a decided advance.

Under the processes of sugar manufacture we find that of dextrose given, but no mention of Behr's method, whereby pure

anhydrous dextrose is commercially obtained by crystallization from aqueous solution.

The chapter on "Brewing and Distilling" is very short, being but an outline of the processes. This is also true of the two succeeding chapters on oils, resins, varnishes, and fats. The textiles and their bleaching are considered in a short chapter, while the theory of dyeing and dyestuffs are given considerable space. Paper, pigments, and paints form a couple of chapters. Leather and glue receive quite a proportionate amount of attention.

It is of course extremely difficult to condense so many and such varied topics into a book of this size, but the authors have discriminated on the whole wisely.

Above all things, it is to be noted with some satisfaction that chemical engineering problems are coming more to the front and that books of this character are multiplying. That the authors are live men the writer had an opportunity to judge from an inspection of a highly interesting exhibit by Mr. Blount, at the Institute of Civil Engineers. The apparatus was devised especially to meet the demands coming from engineers regarding important problems as the estimation of oxygen in copper, the quality of boiler scale produced by waters, etc.

He also had the pleasure of listening to an able lecture by Mr. Bloxam before an audience of gas engineers. The topic was the recovery of cyanogen compounds from gas works. The various lines of procedure for recovering these now most useful products were detailed as were also the uses to which the products could be put.

It is to be hoped that manufacturers, especially in the United States, will, through just such treatises, be led to see the value of chemical knowledge and skill for the proper control of their works and thus stimulate young men to undertake studies which will more fully fit them for responsible positions.

C. A. DOREMUS.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PERIODIC LAW. BY F. P. VENABLE, PH.D., F.C.S. Easton, Pa.: Chemical Publishing Co. 1896. viii + 321 pp. Square 12mo. Price, \$2.50.

The author of this important work, who is Professor of Chemistry in the University of North Carolina, has already become