

added which he had previously overlooked. To most chemists the task which Dr. Bolton has completed would seem an appalling one. To those who know him personally his success will not seem surprising. It is a wonderful book in every respect. Dr. Bolton's interest in this matter is further evidenced by his recent letter to *Science*, printed also in the *Chemical News*, of July 7.

E. H.

SCHOOL CHEMISTRY. BY CHARLES BASKERVILLE, PH.D., The University of North Carolina. Richmond, Va.: B. F. Johnson Publishing Co. 1899. 159 pp. Price, 60 cents.

This book has been prepared for use in high schools, and academies, and is intended to give the pupil an elementary knowledge of the more important chemical facts and theories, especially those connected with every-day life. The book is divided into thirty-seven lessons, each of which consists of a few pages of descriptive text, followed by several well-described and pertinent experiments. Water is first taken up, then atoms, oxygen, air, oxidation, the other non-metals, five lessons on organic chemistry, metals, salts, the soil, vegetable and animal chemistry. The aim of the book is well carried out by the author, but it may be questioned whether the aim of "school" chemistry should not be primarily to train and discipline the mind by the use of the scientific method, as well as to interest the pupil in the study of natural science, and only secondarily to impart knowledge of chemical facts and theory. This order is reversed by the author.

The make-up of the book is good, the proof-reading unusually thorough, but the book is marred by many carelessly constructed sentences and loose statements. There is a very complete index.

JAS. LEWIS HOWE.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE PROGRESS OF SCIENTIFIC CHEMISTRY IN OUR OWN TIMES. BY WILLIAM A. TILDEN. Longmans, Green, and Co., 39 Paternoster Row, London, New York, and Bombay. 1899. ix+276 pp. 12mo.

Dr. Tilden, the well-known professor of chemistry in the Royal College of Science, London, in the spring of 1898, gave a course of lectures to working-men on the progress made in the science and practice of chemistry during the preceding sixty years. Only able to sketch in very broad outline the general features of the subject, he felt the need of some book of moderate size to