

SUBJECT LIST OF WORKS ON CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY, in the Library of the British Patent Office, being No. 6 of the Library Series, and No. 3 of the Bibliographical Series. London. 12mo. 105 pp. 1901. Price, 6 d.

The book is arranged in two parts, first a general alphabet of subject headings, with descriptive entries in chronological order, of the works arranged under those headings, and second a key, or summary of headings shown in class order. The catalogue comprises 885 works, of which 79 are serials, and represents 3,300 volumes. The chronological arrangement is very useful for the purposes of a patent office library, as it enables a searcher to see at once the date and consequent probable value of a book on his subject. Among the early works we notice 10 books on mines and mining called "Pirotechnia," by V. Biringuccio, 1558-9; and the "Works" of J. R. Glauber, containing a "great variety of choice secrets in medicine and alchemy" 1689; also R. Boyle, "The Sceptical Chymist," 1661; etc.

The principal or leading headings of classification are alchemy, analysis, biography, technology, chemical dictionaries, periodicals and digests, inorganic, metalloids, metals, organic, physical, and theoretical, and practical chemistry which covers laboratories, apparatus, and chemical optics, and includes catalogues.

It may be not generally known that the U. S. Patent Office at Washington contains one of the best technical libraries in this country, open to the public for consultation.

WM. H. SEAMAN.

SMOKELESS POWDER, NITROCELLULOSE, AND THE THEORY OF THE CELLULOSE MOLECULE. BY JOHN B. BERNADOU. Lieutenant U. S. Navy. New York: John Wiley & Sons. 1901. Small 8vo. viii + 200 pp. Price, \$2.50.

Under the first legend there are 38 pages of a lecture by Bernadou, on the "Development of Smokeless Powder," reprinted from the *Proceedings of the U. S. Naval Institute* and 30 pages of a translation of a paper by Mendeléeff on "Pyrocellulose Smokeless Powder," though the source from which the latter is taken is omitted. Under the second legend there are 47 pages given to translations of the papers of Vieille and of Bruley on the "Nitration of Cotton." The only newly presented matter is embraced in the first 80 pages and here the author develops his "Theory of the Cellulose Molecule," after treating of the "Earlier Views as to Nitrocellulose Composition and Constitution," The Concep-