

Decoration Céramique au Feu de Moufle. Par M. E. GUENEZ. Paris, Gauthier-Villars et Fils, Quai des Grands-Augustines, 55. 199 p., 1893.

We have already noticed in these columns previous numbers of the *Encyclopédie Scientifique*, of which these present volumes form a recent addition, and further remarks on the general excellence of the plan adopted would be unnecessary. The detailed but concise descriptions of the individual arts and sciences, with separate volumes, each devoted to some particular speciality or division of the whole, and each complete in itself, is an undertaking sufficiently vast to make a doubt as to its success perfectly natural. But under the directorship of M. Leanté, Membre de l'Institut, and of M. Masson, editor, this success has certainly been attained, and we are presented with a series of works each superior in its particular field, and of value to a specialist as well as to the general reader. The first volume, treating of the tanning industry, naturally appeals most strongly to the manufacturer and to the chemist. The discussion consists, in brief, of the study of the crude materials and the chemical products which are introduced, of the theory of the successive operations of manufacture and their practical manipulation. Methods of analysis are also given, and in such a manner as to be intelligible to the manufacturer as well as to his chemist.

The manufacture of varnishes, by M. Naudin, is divided into two parts, the first treating the theoretical side and including the analysis of the resins and oils, with brief notice of the manner of extraction of the same, and their origin both geographical and botanical. The second part treats of the principal processes of manufacture actually used in this branch of industry.

The art of china and pottery decoration is so widespread and includes among its devotees so many amateurs, as well as those working upon a larger scale,

that this little book of M. Guenez will doubtless prove profitable to many readers. Those "little points" which one soon discovers to be so essential to success are here described in principle and in practice, and by an understanding of the cause of the failure repeated disappointment is avoided. In pursuance of this plan the first part of the book deals with the theory or chemistry of china painting, while the second describes in detail the methods used in practice. While sufficiently popular to prevent no serious difficulties to the amateur, this book is of greatest value to the industrial worker.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MRS. J. R. GREEN'S "Town Life in the Fifteenth Century" is nearly ready. It will be of undoubted interest to the general reader as well as to the student of political economy, dealing, as it does, with the days when the towns were independent communities and centres of political life. "There is nothing in England to-day," writes Mrs. Green, "with which we can compare the life of a fully enfranchised borough of the fifteenth century, . . . a state within a state, boasting of rights derived from immemorial custom and of later privileges assumed by law."

—Mr. J. Norman Lockyer, the author of "The Meteoritic Hypothesis," "The Evolution of the Heavens and the Earth," and many other important works, has in press a new book, "The Dawn of Astronomy." It tells of the days when wonder and worship formed the prevailing feature in any consideration of the heavenly bodies; and it traces in Egypt and Babylonia, in China and India, the beginnings of the scientific treatment of the subject. The numerous illustrations lend another feature of interest to this delightful book.

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For Sale.—Small collection of fine first-class sets of birds' eggs; single breech-loading shotgun, gold-filled hunting-case watch and telescope. Write for list of eggs and particulars. B. S. Bowditch, Phelps, N. Y.

I am desirous of obtaining the following back numbers of *The Auk*: One copy each of Oct., 1885; July, 1886; January, 1887; July, 1887; April and July, 1891 and two copies each of the following: January, 1886; Oct., 1887; July, 1888; January, 1889; January, 1890. My own contributions in them only are required; otherwise the copies need not be perfect. I have in exchange for them two vols. (zoology) Mex. Boundary Surveys, col. plates) or complete set of English reprints of "Osteology of Arctic Water-Birds, etc." (6 parts, 24 lith. plates); or other rare scientific reprints of any subject required. Address Dr. Shufeldt, Takoma, D. C.

Wants.

Wanted.—Sachs's Text-book of Botany, 2nd English edition. Dr. Alfred C. Stokes, 527 Monmouth Street, Trenton, New Jersey.

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