

a mixture of metals, constituting a particular group, accompanied by explanatory notes. This order is preserved throughout the book, which consists of sixty-one pages. We trust that the author and the reader will pardon us when we declare that we think such tabular schemes, so early in the course of analysis, are apt to make the student a mere machine—precisely what the author, in his introductory remarks, announces that he wishes to avoid, for he writes, “A mere mechanical acquaintance with a working scheme for separating * * * * is at best but a questionable accomplishment,” etc. And, for some unaccountable reason—perhaps from natural, human depravity or perversity—the great majority of students, beginning analysis, do wed themselves to such a table or scheme and cling to it, despite the rough handling they may receive from an earnest and intelligent quiz-master. But we are rambling. On returning to our subject we discover in it no new methods of separation, no new characteristic test or tests for the various elements; the landmarks in these directions remain unchanged. This is pardonable, seeing that “no pretense is made to originality, either in matter or in method.”

Part II. considers the ‘acid analysis’ and commences with excellent advice for the student, who must now, more than ever, apply what knowledge he may have acquired in regard to the metals and their various combinations with acids.

Brief chapters on ‘preliminary examinations,’ the solution of solid substances, a table of solubilities, and an appendix, dealing with the preparation of the ordinary reagents, conclude the book.

The little volume is well written and nicely printed. Its chief merit seems to be that it presents its author’s particular method of instructing students in this most important branch of chemistry, upon which many others have likewise prepared similar

brochures. The same kindly welcome given them must be accorded this latest arrival. Each does some good, and together they will doubtless do great good.

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A Course of Elementary Practical Bacteriology, Including Bacteriological Analyses and Chemistry. BY A. A. KANTHACK AND I. H. DRYSDALE. XXII. 181 pp. Sm. 8°. Macmillan & Co., London and New York. 1895. Price \$1.10.

This is a laboratory hand-book which will be interesting to all practical workers in bacteriology, since it gives the details of methods used in the Laboratory of St. Bartholomew’s Hospital in London. Some of these methods are not so useful as those now employed in American Laboratories; as, for example, that given for the collection and sterilisation of blood serum, while some are probably more rapid and convenient. As the authors remark, every laboratory has its own ways and means, its ‘short cuts’ and ‘tips,’ which are not always published, and it is necessary to work for a little while in the laboratory to become acquainted with them. The descriptions given are simple and straightforward, and well calculated to meet the wants of students. The plan and order of the several lessons will be found interesting by teachers of the subject. The lessons in Bacteriological Chemistry contain good matter not usually found in a manual of this kind.

NOTES AND NEWS.

TYPHOID INFECTION OF OYSTERS.

THE *Medical News* of March 23, contains a paper by C. I. Foote, giving the results of experiments with oysters, and with the water in which they grow, to determine the possibilities of their becoming infected with the bacillus of typhoid. He found that this bacillus will live in brackish water, taken from just above oyster beds, for at