

*Vanadium, Index to the Literature of.* By G. JEWETT ROCKWELL. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, Vol. I., No. 5, 1877. 8vo. Pp. 32.

*Zirconium, Index to the Literature of.* By A. C. LANGMUIR and CHARLES BASKERVILLE. *Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections*, No. 1173. City of Washington. 1899. 8vo. Pp. 29.

#### SCIENTIFIC BOOKS.

JAHRBUCH DER CHEMIE FOR 1900.

THE latest volume of this familiar work, edited by Richard Meyer, with the cooperation of other well-known chemists, contains an account of the progress of pure and applied chemistry for the year 1900. Here are represented some fifteen hundred investigators, of whom, as nearly as can be determined, about fifty-five per cent. are German, over eleven per cent. French, ten per cent. American, and nine per cent. English. From this it appears that America is next to France and Germany in the number of chemical investigators, and the great prestige of Germany stands out very strikingly.

The subject matter of the book is divided into fourteen sections. In a division so nearly complete geological and mineralogical chemistry should find a place. The sense of proportion is, on the whole, well kept. The amount of work done in the organic field still greatly preponderates all others, a fact which may be judged sufficient reason for devoting 104 pages to this section, as against 66 to inorganic, and 50 to physical chemistry, but it may perhaps be questioned whether the coal-tar and color industry deserves, in a work of this kind, a greater space than any other branch of the science.

The preface to the first volume of the *Jahrbuch* (1891) distinctly sets forth that the object of the book is to present a connected account of the work in each field, disclaiming any effort to be exhaustive. It is for the reader, not for the reference hunter. From this view-point, the work meets a well-recognized need. To judge how well the editors have succeeded in their task would require an amount

of labor little less than their own. A comparison of the *Jahrbuch* with the abstracts of the *Centralblatt* in one or two fields, shows that the work is pretty comprehensive—quite so in inorganic chemistry: In the physical section more has been omitted, though presumably not overlooked.

After some experience with the book, I venture to suggest that its use would be greatly facilitated if the names of the authors in the text were printed in a heavy-face type.

E. T. ALLEN.

*Leitfaden für das zoologische Praktikum.* Von Dr. WILLY KÜKENTHAL. Zweite, Umgearbeitete Auflage. Jena, Verlag von Gustav Fischer. 1902. Mit 169 Abbildungen im Text.

The first edition of this guide for the beginner in the study of zoology was reviewed in *SCIENCE* for November 17, 1899, Vol. X., No. 255.

This, the second edition, does not differ essentially from the first edition though it has been materially improved by abbreviating some of the descriptions of the systematic surveys, rearranging the matter in some of the chapters, making small but more or less important additions here and there and introducing two new chapters of eleven pages on the Cestoda and Nematoda. A number of the figures of the first edition have been discarded and some of the borrowed figures have been replaced by original drawings. The latter are not always equal to those replaced. There have also been added a few good new original figures.

The original 284 pages with 172 figures have become 304 pages with 169 figures. The typographical work is good, what one acquainted with Fischer's work would expect. The price of the book unbound is placed at 6 Marks.

HENRY F. NACHTRIEB.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

#### SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

*The Popular Science Monthly* for September begins with an article on 'Aerography' by Percival Lowell, which gives a résumé of the mapping of the surface of Mars and shows