PART SECOND.

Bibliographical Record.

ART. I.—*An Introduction to Practical Chemistry, including Analysis.*
By J. E. BOWMAN, F.C.S., late Professor of Practical Chemistry in King's College, London. Edited by C. L. BLOXAM, Professor of Practical Chemistry in King's College, London; Lecturer on Chemistry in the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. Fourth Edition.—London, 1861.

A NEW issue of this well-planned and well-written book has lately appeared; the subjects treated of are explained in such simple yet elegant language, that the work has deservedly become a general favourite. Having pointed out the chief features of the author's plan in noticing former editions, we may now content ourselves with a few words as to the difference between the present and the last (1858) edition.

The editor announces in the new preface several alterations and improvements, especially in the course of qualitative analysis, the use of the blowpipe, and the examples of volumetric analysis.

Chapters I. to IV. of Part I. remain almost unaltered, and in the early part of Chapter V. we find no change. But at the end of Chapter VI. an excellent "Systematic Examination of Unknown Substances with the Blowpipe," is detailed; it proves, however, on closer inspection, to be nothing more than a part of what is generally termed the "Preliminary Examination." Section 147, p. 52, now seems obsolete in great measure, owing to the improved photo-chemical methods of Cartmell and Bunsen, a simple and brief notice of which might very well be here introduced.

One or two additions have been made to the chapter on alkalimetry and acidimetry, including the determination of iron by means of permanganate of potash. Might not an example of quantitative gas-analysis have been given here? such, for instance, as Pettenkofer's beautiful and accurate process for estimating carbonic acid in the air—a process which any student taking moderate care can perform successfully.

In Part II. the reactions of the bases are described under the metals, and the reactions of the acids under the non-metallic bodies. Although beyond this we do not see any very striking alteration in the course of qualitative analysis, yet it is evident that this part of the volume has been very carefully revised. Most of the changes

made are decidedly for the better, and tend to facilitate the progress of the student. Among these improvements, a place might advantageously have been found for the following special tests of tried excellence, most of which are now in common use in the laboratory:

Binoxide of lead with nitric acid, as a test for manganese.

Binoxide of lead with hydrate of potassium, as a test for chromium in the state of sesquioxide.

Nitrite of potassium, as a test for cobalt.

Sulphate of strontium, to discriminate between barium and strontium.

Disulphate of copper as a test for iodine.

Potassio-iodide of mercury as a test for minute traces of ammonia.

In the case, too, of molybdate of ammonium, a meagre foot-note on p. 122 is all the information given, and does not describe the way of applying the test for the detection of phosphoric acid. Chloride of palladium as a test for iodine is referred to with similar brevity on p. 126. In the examination for acids, the further analysis of the precipitate produced by nitrate of silver is not given with a fulness sufficient to ensure satisfactory results.

In the table of the more important elements given on page 2, we think that lithium, cadmium, molybdenum, and tungsten might be added with benefit, since several compounds of these metals are now manufactured, and have become comparatively common.

We note a few additions in the remainder of the volume: for instance, some fresh examples of quantitative analyses are given. One or two of the more modern and more perfect forms of gas-burners and gas-blowpipes devised by Griffin and others might have been substituted for those represented on pp. 214 and 215; Bunsen's burner, in some of its numerous forms the most useful of all, is dismissed in a foot-note of one line.

But the merits of the book are so conspicuous, and the faults so trivial, that we may be excused for pointing out the defects which seem to us to mar, though slightly, the general perfection of this sound and useful work.

ART. II.—*Die Formen des Beckens, insbesondere des engen weiblichen Beckens, nebst einem Anhange über die Osteomalacie.* Von Dr. CARL CONRAD TH. LITZMANN.—Berlin, 1861.

The Forms of Pelvis, especially of the Narrow Female Pelvis; with an Appendix on Osteomalacia. By Dr. C. C. TH. LITZMANN.

PROFESSOR LITZMANN, the distinguished Professor of Medicine and Midwifery, and Director of the Lying-in Institution of the University of Kiel, has contributed in this work an elaborate and most useful account of the varieties of that formidable obstetric difficulty, the narrow pelvis. His descriptions are based upon extensive personal inquiries, and undoubtedly constitute the most systematic and accurate account of the subject hitherto published. Inverting somewhat the order followed in the book, we find a most interesting historical