NEW BOOKS, ETC.

New York Air Brake Catechism. By Robert H. Blackall. New York: The Norman W. Henley Publishing Company, 1904. 12mo.; pp. 250. Price, \$1.25.

This book is intended principally for the railroad brakeman and locomotive engineer. It is written very clearly and concisely, and is illustrated with numerous diagrams that show all the essential parts of the braking apparatus of a modern train. The book contains a line cut of the complete New York Automatic Air-Brake as applied to locomotive, tender, and passenger car. This cut shows at a glance all the different hose and valve connections, and the valves and other apparatus are shown in section. The volume forms an indispensable handbook for all railroad men.

CRUSHED STONE AND ITS USES. By W. J. Jackman. Chicago: Producers Supply Company, 1904. 8vo.; pp. 110.

This little volume, which is distributed gratuitously by the publishers, contains practical information on the various uses of crushed stone and concrete made with it. The articles in the book are by prominent engineering experts, and from these articles the main points deduced are that concrete made with crushed limestone, screenings, and good cement is the ideal material for every form of construction in which economy and permanency are desired; that this kind of concrete is the only building material which may be considered completely fireproof; that the substitution of limestone screenings for sand results in a stronger and more durable and homogeneous concrete prod uct, together with less expense; and that this item of cheapness and first cost, besides the durability of the material, insures a marked economy in subsequent expenditures for maintenance. Besides the articles on the uses of concrete for various purposes, such as the building of roadways, bridges, seawalls, sewers, tunnels, stairways, and outside building construction, the book contains tests showing the tensile strength, etc., of different mixtures of the substance.

THE THEORY OF THE LEAD ACCUMULATOR (STORAGE BATTERY). By Dr. Friedrich Doblezalek. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1904. 12mo.; pp. 241; 30 figures. Price, \$2.50.

This work, which has been translated from the German by Carl L. von Ende, Ph.D., of Goettingen, Instructor in Chemistry of the State University of Iowa, goes into the chemical properties of the lead accumulator in a very thorough manner. The author first discusses the various theories—such as the chemical, thermodynamical, and osmotic-of the origin of current. The variation of electromotive force and of the electrode potential with acid concentration is also discussed, and chapters are devoted besides to the temperature coefficient, the influence of external pressure, the internal resistance, and the methods of measurement of the same. The changes in the cells during formation, the variations in capacity, and the changes in the cell during use, as well as its behavior during charging and discharge ing, its reversibility, and influence of external pressure, are all gone into with great minuteness. The book will be found most valuable to the storage battery manufacturer and chem-

A TEXTBOOK ON PHYSICS. HEAT. By J. H Poynting, Sc.D., F.R.S., and J. J. Thomson, M.A., F.R.S., Hon.Sc.D. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1904. 8vo.; pp. 354; 193 illus trations. Price, \$4.25.

This is the third volume of an excellent eries. The first two volumes dealt with the properties of matter and sound, and the present one deals with heat. The book is intended chiefly for the use of students who lay most stress on the experimental part of physics. Only the phenomena which are of special importance are described, and the mathematical methods used are very elementary. The book deals with all the familiar manifestations of heat, such as conductivity, heat circulation and convection in liquids and gases, the expansion of solids, liquids, and gases with the rise of temperature, the forms of energy with its conservation, the mechanical equivalent of heat, the change of state on account of heat, radiation and temperature, and the thermodynamics of the former. The book is well illustrated with numerous diagrams, and is one of the best experimental textbooks on this subject which has come to hand.

Model Library. Vol. 1. By Norman H. Schneider. New York: Spon & Chamberlain, 1905. 12mo.; pp. 282. Price, \$1.

This book is a practical work for the use of the amateur electrician. It is made up of four separate pamphlets dealing with the Study of Electricity for Beginners: Electric Bells, Annunciators, and Burglar Alarms, and How to Install Them; How to Make and Use Dry Bat-teries; and Electric Circuits and Diagrams. The book is very simple in character, yet it goes into all the essential details of the subjects treated. In the part on Electric Bells full directions are given, which will enable the amateur to install such bells and annunciators of various kinds. The part on Dry Batteries gives full directions for making not only the usual dry battery with a carbon core, but also

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and can be used chiefly for experimental purposes. The part on Electrical Circuits and Diagrams is made up almost entirely of diagrams of wiring for various purposes, such as bells, automobiles, dynamos, gas lighting, motors, storage batteries, street railways, telephones, telegraphs, wireless telegraphy, and testing. The book will be found a useful addition to the library of any amateur electrician.

A TEXTBOOK ON STEAM AND STEAM EN-GINES, INCLUDING TURBINES AND BOIL-ERS. By Andrew Jamieson, M.Inst. C.E. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1904. 8vo.; pp. 780; numerous illustrations and diagrams. Price, \$3.

The present, or fourteenth, edition of this well-known work has been brought thoroughly up to date by the addition of two lectures on steam turbines for land and marine purposes, and the rewriting of several others. The latest kinds of pyrometers and calorimeters, with their applications, have been dealt with, special attention being given to the fundamental principles of heat and thermo-dynamics. Both ideal and actual conditions of wet, dry, and superheated steam have received particular attention. The latest form of indicator, together with numerous diagrams of simple, compound, triple, and quadruple-expansion reciprocating engines, have been illustrated and discussed. The connection between work done in the cylinder and energy given out by the crankshaft has been explained, step by step; and has been illustrated with carefully calculated and plotted crank-effort diagrams for a recent quadrupleexpansion, five-crank engine. Other lectures are devoted to the various forms of Corliss engine valve-gear; to high-speed, quick-revolution, compound and triple-expansion, electric light and power engines; and to the best automatic systems of lubrication. The most economical quadruple-expansion marine engines, together with their boilers, and appliances for induced draft, superheating, jacketing, and draining—which led to their unsurpassed economy of less than a pound of coal per indicated horse-power hour—will be found fully illustrated. The cause of and remedies for corrosion in marine condensers and boilers have been thoroughly discussed.

A series of questions at the end of each lecture makes the book valuable to the student for review purposes.

SOLAR HEAT. ITS PRACTICAL APPLICA-TIONS. By Charles Henry Pope, A.B. Boston: Charles H. Pope, 1903. 16mo.; pp. 160. Price, \$1.

This is an interesting little volume on solar heat by the author of "Solar Enginery." It gives full details of the various sun motors that have been constructed, and the amount of power that has been obtained from them. It is a popular book of interest to all, and we heartily recommend it to our readers.

### INDEX OF INVENTIONS

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Baltery fluosilientes, Making, J. A [See note at end of list about copies of these patents.] Acid and its salts, producing tartaric, C. Ellis