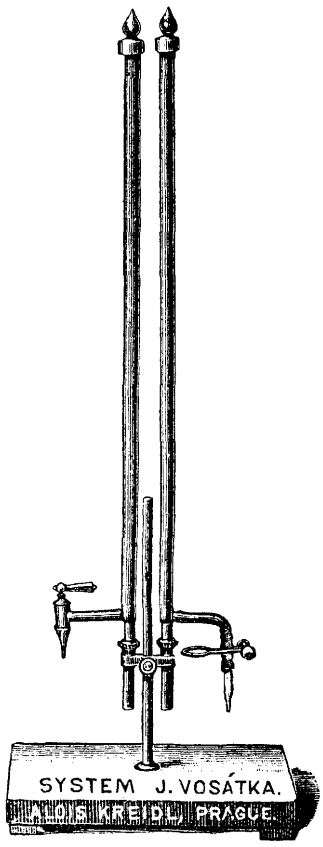

APPARATUS.

Burette and Stand. Vosátka. (*Chem. Zeit.*, 1904, lxviii., 795.)—The burette is furnished with a solid continuation or rod, fitting firmly in a metal socket. This socket slides on the vertical support, can be clamped in any position, and, while securely holding the burette, does not obscure or cover the graduated scale.

Made by Alois Kreidl, Prague. H. A. T.

Volatilization of Platinum. G. A. Hulett and H. W. Berger. (*Journ. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1904, xxvi., 1512.) — The authors show that platinum loses in weight when ignited in air or oxygen. The phenomenon appears to be due to the formation of volatile oxygen compounds of the platinum metals, stable at high temperatures, but decomposed at lower temperatures, and takes place with the very purest platinum as well as with the ordinary metal used for making crucibles, etc. The lowest temperature at which the effect is noticeable is 800° C.; at 900° C. the loss in weight may amount to 0·25 milligramme per hour per 100 square centimetres of surface; at 1,000° C. to 1 milligramme. The effect is not negligible for exact analytical work, since direct measurements showed that a good Bunsen burner heats a platinum crucible to about 960° C., and a blowpipe flame to about 200° higher. In a reducing atmosphere, or *in vacuo*, however, no volatilization occurs even at the highest temperatures of an electrically-heated muffle. A. G. L.

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