

these printed shelving numbers to reconstruct Jefferson's preferred order of books when other forms of guidance (e.g., Jefferson's marginal numbering) were lacking.

Jefferson's subject chapter on "Chemistry" shows how Trist might have occasionally relied on shelving numbers printed in the 1815 catalog when ordering the entries in his 1823 manuscript copy. In this chapter, the numbered series runs as follows: numbers 1-6 are duodecimos, numbers 7-29 are octavos, and number 30 is a quarto. In copying the thirty titles that appear in this chapter from the 1815 printed catalog, Trist first transcribed the entries for the chapter's first (and only) quarto ("30. Neumann's chemistry, by Lewis"), its first octavo ("7. McQueer's chemistry"), and the chapter's first duodecimo ("1. Dictionnaire de Chimie de Macquers"). In this case, Trist roughly followed the order of the 1783 catalog, which lists these three titles at the head of the chapter, likely due to their generalizing treatment of the subject. Following these three titles, however—perhaps due to the ambiguous arrangement of the remaining books in this chapter in the 1783 catalog and the absence of Jefferson's ordinal annotations—Trist deferred to the shelf marks in the 1815 printed catalog to order the entries in his 1823 copy (fig. 6). The sole exception—the appearance of a duodecimo, "6. Jacob's Chemical pocket companion," among an uninterrupted sequence of octavos—is likely the result of Trist returning to the order of the 1783 catalog, which collocates "Jacob's chemical pocket companion" and "Jacob's experiments on Urinary and Intestinal Calculi" (an octavo).³⁵ This method of reordering books according to the sequence of Jeffer-

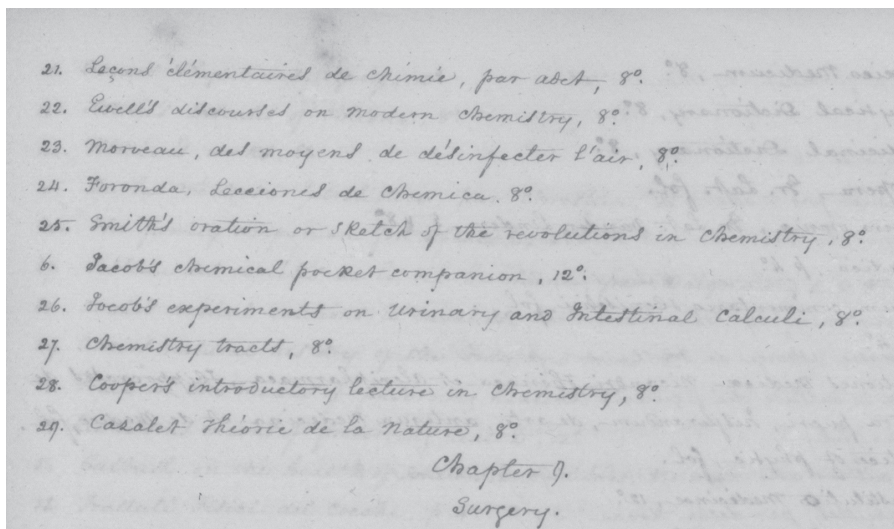


FIGURE 6. 1823 Trist catalog, page 23, showing entries in Chapter 8, "Chemistry," arranged according to Jefferson's shelf mark numbers (here, 21-25, 6, and 26-29). Image courtesy of the Thomas Jefferson Collection, Rare Book and Special Collections Division, The Library of Congress.

35. See 1783 Catalog, page 61.