

agricultural colleges and societies, and of the general subject of agricultural education. Papers were read by Dr. O. C. Abbott of Michigan, Mr. Augustine Smith, Hon. Jno. A. King, Prof. J. A. Holmes of North Carolina, and Hon. D. W. Aiken of South Carolina.

Animal industries were discussed on Jan. 25, 26, and 27; and papers were presented by Mr. R. Baker of Ohio, Dr. James Law of New York, Mr. R. V. Gaines of Virginia, Mr. T. D. Curtis of New York, Mr. H. B. Guiler of Illinois, Mr. Ezra Stetson of Illinois, Prof. Wesley Webb of Delaware, and Dr. M. G. Ellzey of Virginia. Much interest was manifested in both of these sessions, and the general discussions were animated and interesting. On the 29th, the last day, and the one set apart for the consideration of the cotton industries, there was a decided falling-off in attendance; many of the delegates having left for home Saturday night, the 27th.

These conventions which Dr. Loring has called together, and which he inaugurated a year ago, have been productive of much good in bringing representative agriculturists into closer relations with the department. They indicate the desire of the commissioner to study the wishes and opinions of the people in the management of the department, and thus to increase its usefulness.

—Advices received from the U. S. consul at Montevideo, through the Department of state, show an alarming condition of affairs in parts of Uruguay from the ravages of destructive locusts. Foreign countries frequently apply through the state department for copies of the two reports of the U. S. entomological commission on the Rocky-Mountain locust; and it may be well to announce that they were published under the interior department, and are both out of print. The agricultural report for 1877 contains a condensed account of the more practical chapters by Professor Riley, and this may yet be obtained of the commissioner.

—The agricultural committee of the house has agreed to report favorably a bill introduced by Mr. Anderson of Kansas, which empowers the President to appoint nine commissioners whose duty it shall be to investigate thoroughly the movements of agricultural products from points of production to their final markets, the actual cost to the common carrier and his profits, and all matters which practically affect the difference between the prices received by the producer and those paid by the consumer.

—In Salusbury's translation (p. 79) of Dialogue first of Galileo on 'His Systeme of the World,' 1661, Sagredus is made to say, "You put me in mind of a man, who would have sold me a secret how to correspond, by means of a certain sympathy of magnetic needles, with one that should be two or three thousand miles distant; and I telling him, that I would willingly buy the same, but that I desired first to see

the experiment thereof, and that it did suffice me to make it, I being in one chamber, and he in the next, he answered me that in so small a distance one could not so well perceive the operation; whereupon I turned him going, telling him that I had no mind at that time to take a journey unto Grand Cairo, or to Muscovy, but that if he would go himself, I would perform the other part, staying in Venice."

### RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

**Amateur mechanics:** an illustrated monthly magazine; conducted by Paul N. Hasluck. Part i. London, *Trüner*, 1883. 32 pl. 8°.

**Amos, S.** The science of politics. London, *Paul*, 1883 (Intern. sc. series). 496 p. 8°.

**Bell, Alexander Graham.** Upon the electrical experiments to determine the location of the bullet in the body of the late President Garfield; and upon a successful form of induction balance for the painless detection of metallic masses in the human body. Wash., *Gibson pr.*, 1882. 58 p. 8°.

**Boase, H. S.** A few words on evolution and creation. London, *Leng*, 1883. 276 p. 8°.

**Buffalo—Naturalist's field club.** Bulletin. Vol. i. nos. 1-2. Buffalo, *Hicks pr.*, 1883. 48 p. 8°.

**Campbell, J. L.** Geology and mineral resources of the James River valley, Va.; with map and geological sections. N.Y., *Putnam*, 1883. 119 p. 8°.

**Charmes, Gabriel.** Five months in Cairo and in Lower Egypt; transl. by W. Conn. London, *Bentley*, 1883. 356 p. 8°.

**Crowe, A. H.** Highways and byways in Japan: the experiences of two pedestrian tourists. London, *Low*, 1883. 318 p. 8°.

**Duncan, J.** Life of John Duncan, Scotch weaver and botanist; with sketches of his friends and notices of the times, by W. Jolly. London, *Paul*, 1883. 524 p., portr. 8°.

**Grierson, J. B.** Electric lighting by water-power. London, *Spons*, 1883. 8°.

**Hinrichs, Gustavus.** Notes on cloud forms and the climate of Iowa. Iowa City, 1883. (12) p. illustr., map. 8°.

**Hoar, C.** Mensuration made easy; or, the decimal system for the million. London, *Wilson*, 1883. 84 p. 8°.

**Jackson, L. D'A.** Hydraulic manual; consisting of working tables and explanatory text. Intended as a guide in hydraulic calculations and field operations. 4th ed. London, *Lockwoods*, 1883. 496 p. 8°.

**Lackowitz, W.** Bilder aus dem vogeleben Norddeutschland und seiner nachbarländer, nach skizzen von Paul M. Röper bearb. i. lief. Berlin, *Edhardt*, 1883. 24 p. 1. 8° (to be completed in 25 parts).

**Meigen, W.** Die deutschen pflanzennamen Wesel. *Kühler*, 1882. 27 p. 8°.

**Nature studies.** By Grant Allen, Andrew Wilson, Thomas Foster, Edward Clodd, and Richard A. Proctor. London, *Wyman*, 1883 (Knowl. libr.). 322 p. 8°.

**Nemontis, W. S.** Darwin's evolution theory not supported by evidence. London, *Sampson*, 1883. 23 p.

**Ohio meteorological bureau.** Report for October, November, December. 3 nos. n.p., 1882. 16, 24, 34 p. 8°.—Circular of information, 9 p.

**Perry, J.** Practical mechanics. London, *Cassell*, 1883. 270 p. illust. 12°.

**Proctor, R. A.** The stars in their seasons; an easy guide to a knowledge of the stars, exhibiting, in twelve large maps, the appearance of the heavens at any hour of the night, all the year round. London, *Wyman*, 1883. 8°.

**Rawlinson, G.** Antiquity of man, historically considered. London, *Rel. tract. soc.*, 1883. 44 p. 8°.

**Smith, G.** Assyrian discoveries; an account of explorations and discoveries on the site of Nineveh, during 1873 and 1874. 7th ed. London, *Low*, 1883. 466 p. 8°.

**Smith, G.** The geography of British India, political and physical. London, *Murray*, 1883. 570 p., maps. 8°.

**Wilkinson, H.** Sunny lands and seas; a cruise around the world in the S. S. 'Ceylon.' London, *Murray*, 1883. 8°.

**Williams, W. Matthieu.** Science in short chapters. N.Y., *Funk & Wagnalls*, 1883. 308 p. 12°.

**Year-book of pharmacy.** 1882. London, *Churchill*, 1883. 607 p. 8°.