led to the collation of the ages of persons who have lived to a very great age. Lord Malahide is inclined to give credit to the great number of cases of recorded longevity occurring among the inscriptions recovered from old Roman graves in Algeria and Tunisia. Mr. Renier has published a collection of these, and a still more complete series is by Mr. Willman, under the auspices of the Royal academy of Berlin. Upwards of ten thousand inscriptions are thus calendared.

The following is a list from Numidia: —

101	14 persons.	110	5 persons.
101	10 "	115	4 "
102	2 "	120	3 "
103	1 person.	125	2 "
105	7 persons.	126	1 person.
106	1 person.	127	1 "
107	1 "	131	1 "
108	1 "	132	1 "

At Mastar, a small town, the cemetery yields the following: —

Anna R.	101	Marcela	120
Coecilius	100	Januarius	101
Gargilius	103	Martialis	105
Granius	110	Another	115
Ninava	115	Jussata	105
Petreia	115		

Lord Malahide, in order to show the credibility of these figures, speaks at length upon the duties of the Roman censors. — (*Journ. anthrop. inst.*, xii. 441.)

J. W. P. [103

The Pawnees. — Mr. John B. Dunbar of Bloomfield, N.Y., has brought together in a quarto pamphlet his researches into the Pâni family of North American Indians. The tribes embraced in this group are the Pawnees, Arikaras, Caddos, Huecos or Wacos, Keechies, Tawaconies, and Pawnee Picts or Wichitas. The last five are the southern or Red River branches. A brief account of each of these is given in the first few pages of the pamphlet. The third paragraph is devoted to the Arikaras, and the remainder of the monograph to the Pâni, or Pawnees. A very extensive bibliography of the stock has been collected, commencing with the expedition of Lewis and Clarke, and including the publications of Pike, Long, J. T. Irving, Murray, Hayden, and the reports of the several commissioners of Indian affairs. Earlier notices are found in la Harpe, du Pratz, and Charlevoix.

The name 'Pawnee' is probably derived from *Pá-rĭk-ĭ* (a horn), referring to their peculiar scalp-lock. The original hunting-ground extended from the Niobrara, south to the Arkansas, but no definite boundaries can be fixed.

Mr. Dunbar has collected from various sources the traditions of their origin and migrations (§ 8), their conflicts (§ 9), their census (§ 10), and their later history since the beginning of our century. Considerable space is given to their tribal organization, physical characteristics, social usages, dress, names, lodges, arts, trade, feasts, hunting, war, medicine, mourning, religion, calendar, present condition and prospects. Brief chapters are devoted to the celebrated chiefs, Pitale-sharu, Lone Chief, and Medicine Bull. — J. W. P. [104

INTELLIGENCE FROM AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC STATIONS.

STATE INSTITUTIONS.

State university of Kansas, Lawrence.

Weather report for June. — The chief meteorological features of this month were the low mean temperature and the abundant rainfall. During the fifteen preceding years, three Junes have been cooler than this, and only one (1876) has had a larger rainfall.

Mean temperature, 71.38°, which is 2.87° below the June average. The highest temperature was 94°, on the 22d and 30th. The mercury reached or exceeded 90° on only six days. The lowest temperature was 48.5°, giving a range of 45.5° for the month. Mean temperature at 7 A.M., 66.22°; at 2 P.M., 80.3°; at 9 P.M., 69.5°.

Rainfall, 7.73 inches, which is 2.80 inches above the June average. There were seven thunder-showers, one of which, on the night of the 11th, continued for six hours, and brought 2.92 inches of rain. The entire rainfall for the six months of 1883 now completed has been 21.80 inches, which is 5.05 inches above the average for the first half-year of the past fifteen years.

Mean cloudiness, 38.56% of the sky, the month being 3.64% clearer than the average. Number of clear days (less than one-third cloudy), 14; half clear (from one to two thirds cloudy), 12; cloudy (more than two-thirds), 4. There were four entirely clear days, and only one entirely cloudy day. Mean at 7 A.M., 42.67%; at 2 P.M., 39.33%; at 9 P.M., 33.67%.

Wind: S.W., 24 times; S.E., 24 times; N.W., 17 times; N.E., 14 times; N., 4 times; S., 4 times; E., 3 times. The entire distance travelled by the wind was 10,737 miles, which is just two miles above the June average. This gives a mean daily velocity of 357.90 miles, and a mean hourly velocity of 14.91 miles. The highest velocity was 45 miles an hour, on the 22d and 23d. The thunder-storm of the 11th was ushered in at 11.30 P.M. by a very strong 'straight' wind, which unroofed a portion of the Central school building at Lawrence, but was in no sense a tornado.

Mean height of barometer, 29.028 inches; at 7 A.M., 29.050 inches; at 2 P.M., 29.013 inches; at 9 P.M., 29.020 inches; maximum, 29.217 inches, on 14th; minimum, 28.671 inches; monthly range, only 0.546 inch.

Relative humidity: mean for month, 74.3; at 7 A.M., 83.1; at 2 P.M., 57.7; at 9 P.M., 82.1; greatest, 97, on 23d and 24th; least, 37, on 14th.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS.

Ohio Wesleyan university, Delaware, O.

Additions to the museum. — The increase to the collections for the year amounts to 9,202 specimens. The aim of the curator is not to build up a great museum, but one of great educational value, which shall in time contain every specimen needed to explain the facts of natural history as presented in the text-books of the department. All purchases and solicited exchanges are for this end, and even the volunteer exchanges are turned in this direction as far as practicable. W. F. Falconer has given an extensive collection made at the phosphate beds of Charleston, S.C. An elephant's tooth in this collection measures ten by fourteen inches, and weighs twenty-nine pounds.

Prof. R. E. Call of Nebraska, a most enthusiastic naturalist, spent the summer of 1882 on a collecting trip through Georgia. The museum joined with other institutions in defraying his expenses, and sharing the results. Although all the material has not been distributed, over five thousand specimens have been received, and a large number of new and valuable species.

The U. S. fish-commission has presented a collection illustrating the marine fauna of the New England coast. It contains nearly one hundred species, many of which were obtained by dredging at depths as great as two hundred fathoms.

Collections of importance have also been received from the late Mr. C. R. McClellan, a former assistant, and from Revs. J. M. Barker of Mexico, and H. Mansell of India, and the Brothers Willis, recently returned from a tour of the world.

The shelves in all the cases are overcrowded; and at least twenty-five thousand specimens are packed away in boxes and drawers, awaiting study, and room in which to display them. The erection of one or more new cases is required.

NOTES AND NEWS.

The summer courses of instruction in chemistry, offered to teachers by Harvard university, opened July 6, in the chemical laboratories of Boylston hall, and will continue six weeks. The course in general and descriptive chemistry is taken by twelve persons, the course in qualitative analysis by ten, and quantitative analysis by five. There are also eight persons who are engaged on advanced quantitative analysis, organic chemistry, and original research. Lectures are given twice a week on general chemistry, daily on qualitative analysis, and twice a week on quantitative analysis. The laboratories are open daily from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M. The following states are represented: Maine, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Georgia. Of the thirty-five persons mentioned above, five are women, and eight are continuing their work from former courses. As in previous years, these courses are under the direction of Dr. C. F. Mabery.

— Upon the death of Charles Darwin, last year, the advocates of evolution in the Paris anthropological society organized a *Conférence annuelle transformiste*, in which one of their number who is a specialist shall set forth the manner in which the doctrine of transformism has affected his department of research, and also the arguments which his studies have furnished for the substantiation of the doctrine. The opening lecture of the course was delivered by M. Mathias Duval, upon the mutual relations of evolution and the embryology of the eye, and is published in the *Revue scientifique* for May 12. The first part of the discussion is an attack upon the doctrine of special creation and final causes. It does not seem to have come to the notice of our French colleagues, that the doctrine of special creation, like all other doctrines (evolution, for instance), has modified itself from time to time by the increase of knowledge. "These admirable appropriations of an organ to an end," says M. Duval, "are explained by the gradual perfecting of a mechanism, which, setting forth from simple and elementary adjustments, develops, by heredity and selection, the forms that are more and more advantageous to the individual. Upon the question whether embryology confirms this theory, it is proposed to examine the successive forms which the eye presents in the animal series, and the successive stages of its development in man or the higher vertebrates. In other words, the phylogeny will first be questioned, and afterward the ontogeny, of the *globe oculaire*, to see whether these two series of facts are a repetition the one of the other." Briefly passing over the unicellular forms, and those in which the eye is undifferentiated, the author commences his more special investigation with the tunicates and amphioxus, from which point the argument is conducted with great precision, and is well illustrated.

— The French academy of sciences proposed as a subject for one of its 1882 prizes the following: "To find the origin of the electricity of the atmosphere, and the causes of the great development of electrical phenomena in storm-clouds." Several memoirs were received by the academy; but no one of them was adjudged worthy of the prize, although a reward and encouragement of a thousand francs was granted to one of the competitors. The academy, therefore, continues the above as one of the prize subjects for 1885. Memoirs will be received up to June 1, 1885. Each must be accompanied by a sealed envelope containing the name and address of the author. The envelope will not be opened unless the memoir is successful. The value of the prize is three thousand francs.

— The sixth annual convention of American librarians will be held in Buffalo, Aug. 14 to 17. The opening address will be delivered by the president, Justin Winsor. Excursions will be made down the Niagara River, and, at the close of the session, to Niagara Falls. Further details may be obtained from Mr. John N. Larned, Young men's library, Buffalo.

— The Smithsonian institution will soon publish