

graphic taste, which characterize the house of this *imprimeur-libraire*; and, being under the immediate charge of so eminent and able an astronomer as Tisserand, we venture to predict for the new journal an auspicious future.

Tisserand will have as *collaborateurs* Callandreau and Bigourdan of the Paris observatory, and Radau; and the *Bulletin* is expected to be issued hereafter at the beginning of each month.

INTELLIGENCE FROM AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC STATIONS.

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS.

Geological survey.

Paleozoic paleontology. — During March the survey turned over to the National museum the collection of Devonian fossils from the Eureka district of Nevada. It embraces the Devonian fauna of central Nevada, described by Mr. Charles D. Walcott in the paleontology of the Eureka district, exclusive of the Actinozoa and Bryozoa. It contains 2,397 specimens, including 203 species, 89 of which are Brachiopoda, 44 Lamellibranchiata, 40 Gasteropoda, 11 Pteropoda, 9 Cephalopoda, 3 Crustacea, and 7 Poecilopoda.

During the last field-season, Mr. C. D. Walcott and his assistants spent some time in the study of the Potsdam localities in New York, and considerable collections were sent in to the office of the survey. He is now engaged in the preliminary preparation and study of material to illustrate the Cambrian fauna of the United States. It is very desirable that large quantities of material should be brought together from all the Cambrian groups; and the survey would be glad to receive collections, whether large or small, from all portions of the country. Care should be taken in packing, and a record kept. Correspondence has been begun with numerous collectors in Wisconsin, in order to obtain material from the Potsdam group.

Mesozoic paleontology. — Dr. C. A. White, in charge of this branch of paleontologic research, has lately prepared a bulletin on mesozoic fossils. It is illustrated with nine plates, and contains three papers devoted respectively to the mesozoic fossils of Alaska, Arkansas, and Texas. Hyatt's new genus, *Enclimatoceras*, is described and illustrated in this bulletin. The fourth annual report, which is just about being issued, contains a paper of sixty pages, with forty-nine plates of illustration, entitled "A review of the fossil Ostreidae of North America, and a comparison of the fossil with the living forms."

Dr. White is making preliminary studies of fossils from the Pacific coast, preparatory to visiting that section to undertake a special study of its mesozoic and cenozoic faunas.

At intervals ever since 1880, Dr. White has been engaged in the description of the mollusks and echinoderms of the cretaceous formation of the provinces of Sergiee, Pernambuco, Bahia, and Para, in Brazil. The collections were made by the Imperial geological survey of Brazil, in charge of Ch. Fred. Hartt. Dr. O. A. Derby, his former assistant, is in charge of the geological division of the National museum of

Brazil, under the auspices of which this work is done. The specimens described include 82 species of Chonchifera, 91 of Gasteropoda, 13 Cephalopoda, 11 of fresh-water faunas, and 15 echinoderms. Among them he has established four new genera. The specimens are all referable to the Neocomian series, as is also a fresh-water fauna from Bahia, described in the same volume. The manuscript, with twenty-eight quarto plates of illustration to be lithographed, is now ready for the printer, and will be published in Portuguese in the *Archivos* of the Brazilian national museum. It is expected that the descriptions, at least, will also be published in English. Dr. White finds that this cretaceous fauna is quite unlike any in North America, but more like that of southern India. A portion of the specimens have been identified with some described by Stoliczka in the 'Paleontologia Indica.'

Mr. J. B. Marcou, Dr. White's assistant, has been busily engaged in sorting and arranging the type specimens described by Prof. F. B. Meek in the various reports of Hayden, King, and other government publications. Many of the types of Conrad and Whitfield are also in the collections that he is arranging.

Mr. L. C. Johnson, who is in the same division, is arranging the large collections of fossils made by him in the Gulf states last summer, and is preparing geological sections from his notes taken while collecting these fossils.

Vertebrate paleontology. — Prof. O. C. Marsh, who is in charge of this division, reports progress in the preparation of the various memoirs, and states that field-work which began in April starts under good auspices, careful preparations having been completed to place four parties in the field early in the season, to be followed by others later.

Paleo-botany. — Among the collections of fossil plants made by Prof. L. F. Ward from the Fort-Union group in the upper Missouri and Yellowstone region, a number of new specimens have been found, which will eventually be published in Professor Ward's memoir on the subject. Professor Ward at present is engaged on the introduction to this work, in which he proposes to review the subject of paleobotany from the historical, geological, and biological stand-point. The work of figuring the types from the Fort-Union collections has been commenced, and a card-catalogue has been made of all the species of fossil plants in the National museum, which renders it much more available as an aid to research than it has ever been before.