

black ones, etc. Apparently she does not require to pass the alphabet in review to decide this. The numbers also have colors to her, as follows:—

1, black; 2, cream color; 3, light blue; 4, brown; 5, white; 6, crimson, pink; 7, greenish; 8, white; 9, greenish (?) 10, brown; 11, black; 12, cream color; 13, blue; 14, brown; 15, white: that is, 11 has the same color as 1, 12 as 2, 13 as 3, etc. These colors are also named instantly, and in any order, and in groups.

No other member of my family has this idiosyncrasy. A cousin, Miss S., staying with me, arranges the months in an ellipse, in her mind. The major axis of the ellipse is conceived to be horizontal. March is at the left hand, October at the right, July at the upper extremity of the minor axis, January at the lower. The other months occupy equal spaces between those already named. Hence it follows that their lengths are conceived as unequal. Half the ellipse is occupied by the five months, October to March. The direction of motion round the ellipse is indifferent, left-right or right-left. This ellipse is conceived of as having absolute dimensions. The major axis is taken as about three and a quarter inches. In this connection I would refer to *Science*, July 31 and Aug. 21.

These cases appear to me sufficiently noteworthy to deserve this record in passing.

EDWARD S. HOLDEN.

Madison, Sept 7.

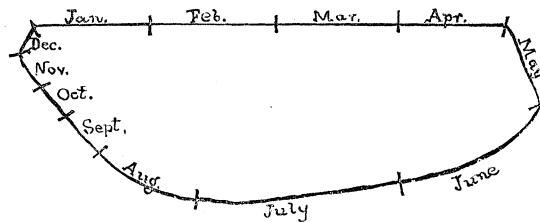
In my mind, there has always been associated with every name or word a color, or shade of color. With some names the color is clear and well defined, with others somewhat vague. I can only distinguish them as light or dark. I give you a few instances: In my mind, John, Jane, Ann, Mary, are red; William, Walter, Robert, blue; George, Nathan, Gilbert, white; Joseph, black; Mark, Judas, Humphrey, brown; James, yellow.

New York, red; Chicago, light; St. Louis, reddish; Portland, dark; San Francisco, yellowish; Leadville, gray; Denver, yellow; St. Paul, dark, etc. I never mentioned this, excepting once or twice when a boy, and was laughed at as trying to say something peculiar.

GEO. S. MILLER.

St. Paul, Minn.

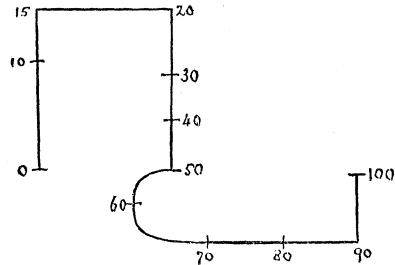
Mr. Ruheit's diagram of the months of the year as pictured in his mind, and as represented in *Science* of Aug. 21, is so strikingly similar to a conception of my own, that I am led to present my diagram also.



The similarity seems very remarkable to me. I cannot explain the *raison d'être* of the diagram. Perhaps, as most boys go through about the same alternations of rest and work during their earlier years, Mr. Ruheit's explanation may apply here, and may also account for the similarity of the diagrams.

A diagram of numbers which also forms itself in

my mind, is of peculiar form, and is equally difficult to explain.



I cannot think of any number less than a hundred, that does not place itself immediately in its appropriate place in the diagram.

ARTHUR WINSLOW.

Raleigh, N.C., Aug. 27.

The ginkgo-tree.

The paper on *Salisburia adiantifolia*, illustrating the 'phylogeny' of the genus Ginkgo, by Lester F. Ward, in *Science* for June 19, is one of great interest to botanists. In the Central Park we have a group of six trees in close proximity to each other, and which bear fruit abundantly. The group is composed of three males and three females, and for the past four years have borne an abundance of fruit. I herewith send you a photograph of a fruiting-branch, which will give an exact idea of how it appears.

E. B. SOUTHWICK,
Botanist and entomologist.

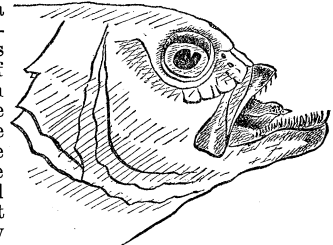
Department of public parks,
Central Park, New York, Aug. 28.

An abnormal black bass.

A black bass, weighing upwards of half a pound, was caught at Webster Lake, Franklin, N.H., Aug. 21, 1885, by Mr. Charles Aiken. The head of this fish presented a singular abnormality, which seemed worthy of a short notice.

The malformation was apparently restricted to the forehead and upper jaw. In other respects, the fish seemed to be normally developed, and in good condition.

The lower jaw was of proper size, and, when the mouth closed, protruded seven millimetres beyond its fellow, exposing the tongue for a length of three millimetres from its tip. This state of things gave the fish a very grotesque appearance, the 'nose' rising quite abruptly to the 'forehead' instead of making with it the customary straight line. The teeth of the lower jaw were entirely exposed, and, not meeting those of the superior maxillary, had become very numerous, and nearly twice their natural size, the exterior curving outward. The vomerine teeth, and those of the upper jaw which met the tongue, were about normal. The exposed parts of the mouth were unduly pigmented;



MICROPTERUS SALMOIDES (LAC.) GILL.
MALFORMED.