

and its Adulteration;' 'Canned Foods;' 'Candies;' 'Poisoning from Smoked Sturgeon;' 'Baking-Powder;' 'Bread;' 'The Food at the State Camp;' 'Foods for Invalids and Infants,' by Prof. A. R. Leeds;' 'Estimation of Morphine in Opium,' by Prof. H. B. Cornwall; and 'Notes on Drugs sold in New Jersey,' etc., by August Drescher.

American Fishes. By G. BROWN GOODE. New York, Standard Book Co. 8°.

THIS is a book which every devotee of the rod will be glad to possess. Mr. Goode modestly says in the preface that he yielded to his publisher's request for a 'book about fish and fishing in America,' feeling that he knew more on this subject than on any other. Since 1874 Mr. Goode has been more or less closely connected with the United States Fish Commission, has been abroad as the representative of the United States to the foreign fishery exhibitions, and has in several books and innumerable articles published the results of his observations and investigations. For a time Mr. Goode acted as fish commissioner after the death of Professor Baird, resigning the position only that he might devote all his energies to the National Museum.

In the present volume no attempt is made to cover all of the 1,750 species known to exist on this continent: the object has been rather to give information about every North American fish likely to be of interest to the general reader either on account of its food-value or its gameness. All of this information is couched in such language as to be perfectly intelligible to those not conversant with the mysteries of scientific terminology; and, as the author states, the book is intended for "the angler, the lover of nature, and the general reader." A figure is given of nearly every species, and these figures are most admirable, resembling frequently the carefully prepared drawings of the Fish Commission.

Mr. Goode gives vent to one lamentation in which he will meet the sympathy of those who have had the products of their pens published as public documents. It is probable that most of those who have ever had the curiosity sufficient to induce them to take down from the shelves of some country library one from the rows of mourning-clad volumes of government reports have never gone further than the 'honor to transmit.' One of the chief objects of the author in writing this book was to see some of the results of his twenty years' study printed in substantial and dignified shape. We had never thought of our black-clad friends as lacking in dignity, and they are certainly substantial enough for such use as they get; still the public is to be congratulated on having so well made a book on a subject so ably and successfully handled. It is a book on fish and their habits, and there is no attempt to tell of rods and flies.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE June number of *The Century* opens with the second of Mr. Kennan's illustrated articles, this one being on 'Plains and Prisons of Western Siberia.' The Lincoln history in this number contains chapters on 'The Advance,' 'Bull Run,' 'Frémont,' and 'Military Emancipation.' The last of the present series of illustrated Western articles by Mr. Roosevelt is entitled 'The Ranchman's Rifle on Crag and Prairie.' Another illustrated article is written by Mr. Theodore De Vinne, printer of *The Century*, and is entitled 'A Printer's Paradise: The Plantin-Moretus Museum at Antwerp.' Mr. Burroughs's appreciative article on 'Matthew Arnold's Criticism,' it seems, had been sent to the printer for the June *Century* before Mr. Arnold's death. In the same number Mrs. van Rensselaer points out some of the errors into which Mr. Arnold fell in discussing American art. Professor Atwater's food-article this month discusses the question 'What We Should Eat.' The fiction of the number includes some chapters of Dr. Eggleson's novel, 'The Graysons.' The concluding portion of Henry James's 'The Liar' is given; with two short stories, 'Selina's Singular Marriage,' by Grace Denio Litchfield, and a love-story, 'By Telephone,' by Brander Matthews. A biographical paper is devoted by Mrs. Herrick to Col. Richard Malcolm Johnston, the Southern story-writer. A portrait of Colonel Johnston accompanies the article. In this number there is another article by Mr. Cheney on

bird-songs; there is also a group of poems. — The June *St. Nicholas* has as a leading article, 'A Great Show,' by Prof. Alfred Church, describing the Circus Maximus at Rome. Thomas Nelson Page continues the serial, 'Two Little Confederates,' and Celia Thaxter contributes a children's story, 'Cat's-Cradle.' 'Caterina and her Fate,' by E. Cavazza, is an old Sicilian legend put into verse, and illustrated by R. B. Birch. Among the lighter features are contributions by Amélie Rives, Emilie Poulsson, Margaret Johnson, Estelle Thomson, Julia P. Ballard, Alfred Brennan, and C. W. Miller. — Despite the fire, the June issue of *The American Magazine* is a good number. Among the notable features is a paper on 'Our Defences from an Army Standpoint,' by Gen. O. O. Howard; 'The Art of Entertaining,' by Mrs. Gen. John A. Logan; 'Dickens on the American Stage,' by George Edgar Montgomery; and 'Barbados: The Elbow Island,' by Dr. William F. Hutchinson. — In spite of reports to the contrary, *The Cosmopolitan* magazine will continue to be published. The June number, shortly to be issued, promises to be the best it has ever sent forth. The leading article, upon 'The Romance of Roses,' is an account, by Sophie B. Herrick, of the stories clustering about these universal favorites. It is illustrated by many engravings and by four colored pages.

— Under the head of 'Philosophical Papers, of the University of Michigan,' Andrews & Company, Ann Arbor, are now publishing a second series. These papers were prepared by specialists in the university, under the direction of the philosophical department, and, with but one exception, were read before the Philosophical Society, being selected and edited by Prof. George S. Morris. The series consists of four papers, — 'The Ethics of Democracy,' by Prof. John Dewey; 'Speculative Consequences of Evolution,' by Prof. Alexander Winchell; 'Lessing on the Boundaries of Poetry and Painting,' by Prof. E. L. Walter; 'The Ethics of Bishop Butler and Immanuel Kant' (a thesis for the degree of Ph.D.), by Webster Cook. — Cassell's 'Pocket Guide to Europe,' the 1888 edition of which is just out, was planned by E. C. Stedman, to meet the demand for a general European guide-book, small enough to be carried easily in a gentleman's or lady's pocket, and yet more complete than any other single-volume guide. It was compiled by Edward King of Paris, who personally went over most of the routes described. It was revised by M. F. Sweetser of Boston, and is re-edited and kept up to date by Mr. Stedman, with the aid of experts in the London office of Messrs. Cassell & Company.

— Senator Edmunds has proposed an amendment to the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, authorizing the government to expend twenty-five thousand dollars for salaries and expenses of a scientific commission of three persons — to be composed of one officer of the army or navy, a geologist and mineralogist, and a naturalist — to visit and report upon the resources of the upper Kongo basin, its products, its minerals, its vegetable wealth, the openings for American trade, and such other information as shall be thought of interest to the United States. Another amendment, which he has proposed to the same bill provides an appropriation of ten thousand dollars for salary and expenses of an agent and consul-general at Borna, in Kongo. The President is authorized to detail an army or navy officer for this service.

— The House committee has reported favorably the international copyright bill, that has already been passed by the Senate, instead of the one introduced by one of its own members. This shows a determination to enact this measure into a law during the present session, and a willingness to facilitate its passage.

— The House committee has given a good deal of attention to the proposed survey for the purpose of ascertaining whether the arid lands of the United States are susceptible of being reclaimed, or not. Popular interest in this matter is aroused all over the West. No more important subject has been brought to the attention of Congress during the present session.

— The delay of Congress in passing the annual appropriation bills prevents the Bureau of Ethnology from making its plans for the field-work of the present season. This bureau is not established by law, but is kept alive from year to year by special appropriations for its work. While there is no doubt that it will be pro-

vided for as usual this year, it is legally impossible to assume that it will in carrying on the work of the bureau.

—Dr. Asa Gray left Harvard College in trust, to aid in the support of the Gray Herbarium of Harvard University, the copyrights of all his books, upon the condition that proper provision be made for the renewal and extension of these copyrights by new editions, continuations, and supplements, such as may be needed in the study of botany, and as may best enhance and prolong the pecuniary value of the bequest.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

. Correspondents are requested to be as brief as possible. The writer's name is in all cases required as proof of good faith.

Twenty copies of the number containing his communication will be furnished free to any correspondent on request.

The editor will be glad to publish any queries consonant with the character of the journal.

Fayette County Meteorite.

IN a notice published in this journal Feb. 3, we gave the name of 'La Grange' to this meteorite, overlooking the fact that this name was already applied to the Oldham County (Kentucky) iron. In order to avoid confusion, we would suggest that this name be dropped, and that instead, this meteorite be designated by the name of the county in which it was found (Fayette County, Tex.); and under this title will shortly appear (*American Journal of Sci-*

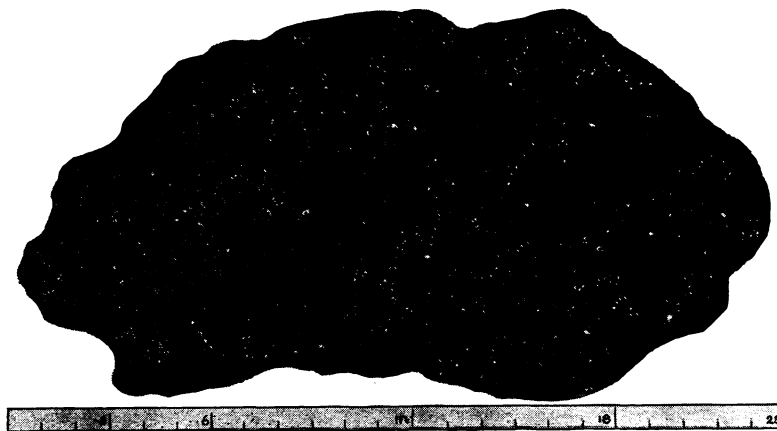
subsequent to the veins, and doubtless at the time of the fall. A dark clouding for the most part surrounds these fissures, the darkest parts being farthest from the fissure, and terminated, in some cases, by a dark line similar to the veins. As all of the fissures are not surrounded by this dark shading, and as some of the clouded spots contain no fissures, it argues that the coloration cannot be the effect of decomposition induced by the cracks, particularly as there is no apparent effect of decomposition extending in from the surface of the stone. The clouding is perhaps older than the cracks, and formed lines of weakness which the cracks followed. Further sections may throw more light on this point.

The general structural appearance of the polished section is that of a fine, compact conglomerate of greenish-gray color. When held so as to reflect the light properly, the grains of iron might, as to number and distribution, be likened to the stars in the Milky Way. Only a few grains attain the size of an eighth of an inch, although two or three grains, composed of iron and troilite, are a full quarter-inch in diameter. Nearly all of the larger grains contain troilite, so that our efforts to develop the Widmanstadian figures were only partially successful.

In making a mould of the stone before cutting it, the surface was thoroughly oiled, which removed a good deal of the iron-rust, showing much more of the original black crust remaining than could be seen at first.

WARD & HOWELL.

Rochester, N.Y., May 24.



ence for June) papers by Mr. J. E. Whitfield of the United States Geological Survey, and Mr. G. P. Merrill of the United States National Museum; the former having worked it up very thoroughly from the chemical side, and the latter microscopically.

They find it to "consist essentially of enstatite and olivine, with a good deal of nickel, iron, and some pyrrhotite." The iron contains over fifteen per cent of nickel, and about two and a half per cent of cobalt.

Since the preparation of these papers, we have cut three slices, an inch and a quarter thick, from the centre of the stone, which enables us to add some interesting facts. The black veins that were observed at several points on the surface are found to extend entirely through the mass, and to be arranged mainly in two sets, in each of which the veins are approximately parallel, the two sets crossing each other at an angle of about 45°. This systematic arrangement of the veins, which may be only accidental, is shown in the accompanying cut, which represents a face of one of the slices.

As the planes of the veins are cut nearly at right angles by the sections, they show on each of them, in approximately the same positions. This is particularly the case with the narrow vein shown at the base of the section. Although only a mere line, it is uniform throughout, and is seen in exactly the same position on all of the sections: therefore we have already revealed the plane of this vein, 15 by 4 inches, with no indications of 'petering out.'

The irregular thick vein also maintains a nearly uniform appearance throughout the four inches of thickness.

The sections also reveal a number of fissures or cracks formed

An Unusual Auroral Bow.

FOR several years past the 'northern lights' at Buffalo have been a rare meteor. Last evening an unusually interesting display was witnessed. As twilight faded, a luminous bank appeared in the north, which increased in brightness and altitude until nearly midnight. This was accompanied by the usual phenomena of a bright aurora; i.e., a yellowish-green color, long streamers emanating from a bright, irregular arch resting on dark clouds, and the eastward billowy motion of the streamers of light. The most interesting part, however, was an arch which rested its extremities on the eastern and western horizons, and passed at first a few degrees south of the zenith, but which drifted several degrees farther south before final disappearance. This arch formed about 9 o'clock, remained sharply defined until 9.45, and at 10.15 was still faintly visible. Its width appeared to be about that of the rainbow, and it was at first as symmetrical. Subsequently it became somewhat bent, and of irregular width. The bends, convex southward, slowly passed along the bow westward. As it faded out, the extremities were displaced by streamers of light. Those in the east were very distinct, and four or more at a time appeared in this columnade.

A phenomenon not before witnessed by me was a steady and rapid drifting or flowing of the luminous, cloud-like matter of the arch from the east towards the west. This could be plainly seen by the unaided eye for about forty degrees of the upper part of the band, and any particular cloud would traverse this space in two minutes.

D. S. KELLICOTT.

Buffalo, N.Y., May 21.