

and unsatisfactory experiments in various fields of psychic research made at Pesaro, and a review of a recent German work on hypnotism. The society has decided to collect a library in honor of the late Mr. Gurney, to contain works in the special fields of his labors. A catalogue of the library is appended, and contributions are invited.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

THE J. B. Lippincott Company will soon publish "As You Like It," forming the eighth volume of the new variorum Shakespeare edition, edited by Dr. Horace Howard Furness. This edition of Shakspeare throws much light on these dramas, and gives an interesting compendium of what has been written about them.

— Houghton, Mifflin, & Co. will publish shortly "Standish of Standish," a story of the Plymouth Colony, by Mrs. Jane G. Austin.

— D. Appleton & Co. have nearly ready "Five Thousand Miles in a Sledge — Midwinter's Journey across Siberia," by Lovel F. Gowing; and David A. Wells's new work, "Recent Economic Changes, and their Effect on the Production and Distribution of Wealth and the Well-being of Society."

— Fleming H. Revell, Chicago and New York, publishes this week a series of thirty maps and plans of the entire world as known in Scripture. The series is entitled "Revell's Biblical Wall Atlas," and was prepared by T. Ruddiman Johnson, who has availed himself of the results of the latest geographical research, including the recent surveys of the Palestine Exploration Fund, together with every benefit of the most accurate modern scholarship.

— The next edition of the "Naturalists' Directory" (Boston, S. E. Cassino) will be issued early in 1890. Any list of the names of scientific men that are not already represented in the work will be thankfully received. While the new edition will be as complete as possible in American names, it has been thought best to exclude from the lists of foreign countries the names of all persons who do not reply to the blanks or letters sent them, thus making it a more useful exchange list. Unless a sufficient number of subscribers is received to meet the expense of publication, the book will not be issued.

— The September *Bulletin of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station* contains five articles discussing the results of experiments in preventing the injuries of the plum curculio, striped cucumber-beetle, currant-worm, and various other injurious insects, and also an important experiment with remedies for potato-rot. These experiments were carried on by the entomologist and botanist of the station, Clarence M. Weed, and the bulletin is illustrated with numerous original engravings. It will be sent free to any Ohio farmer who requests it. The address of the experiment station is Columbus, O.

— *Babyhood* for November opens up the question of how to meet the increasing demand for intelligent nursery-maids. It is a subject in which all mothers of young children are interested, and the methods proposed by *Babyhood* for raising the standard of nurse-

girls deserves careful consideration. No less important to parents is the warning as to growing pains given by Dr. J. Lewis Smith. "Nursery Cookery," "Nursery Helps and Novelties," may be mentioned among the topics discussed in the current number.

— "Origin and Formation of the Hebrew Scriptures," to be published soon by Lee & Shepard, Boston, is the indicative title of Lorenzo Burge's third volume bearing upon the human family in its origin, and in the general trend of the purposes of its creation, and its relation to the Creator, at the same time interpreting the Scriptures, and explaining their relation with mankind. Mr. Burge's previous works in this line of investigation are "Pre-Glacial Man and the Aryan Race;" and "Aryas, Semites, and Jews; Jehovah and the Christ." In his "Origin and Formation of the Hebrew Scriptures," the author presents the arguments as to when, where, under what circumstances, for what purpose, and by whom, were these Scriptures written, from the records of the eminent Persian nobleman and historian, Nehemiah, for many years governor of Palestine, from B.C. 445. The work includes an appendix containing prophecy sustained in the histories of Egypt, Assyria, and Babylon, and a review of what the author terms "radical views of the Bible." "The Heroes of the Crusades," by Amanda M. Douglas, announced by Lee & Shepard, is a history of the Crusades, and a story of the personal incidents and efforts of the Crusaders themselves.

— The *Harvard Monthly* (Cambridge, Mass.) enters on its fifth year with an appeal for increased support outside the college, because the editors believe that they can give graduates their money's worth. The purely literary side of the magazine is sufficiently known. In addition to this, events have led it more and more into the practical discussion of college questions. The editors purpose henceforth to recognize decisively this part of their field in the two following ways. Heretofore they have accepted nothing shorter than formal articles. In the future, upon any subject which would concern a Harvard graduate or undergraduate as such, they will regularly open their columns to matter such as the *Century* might print under "Open Letters," or the *Nation* under "Correspondence." They will also begin to publish each month, with brief comment, a record of recent events deserving note; not a chronicle of the daily routine, but of whatever changes the daily routine, of college life, including in the latter word every thing from the broader aspects of athletics to the A.B. degree. In gathering the facts, the editors have been promised the aid of President Eliot, so that what information the paper gives will be authentic. All comment will be entirely the editors' own. These two changes will enable graduates at a distance to keep track of developments at Harvard, and so to do intelligent missionary work, and will also give them a better means than in the past of expressing their own views both on student life and on the college government. The editors wish eventually to make the *Monthly* the recognized organ of communication between alumni, members of the governing boards, and undergraduates. The value to the college of such a medium, it seems to them, would be very great. It depends on graduate support, both in subscriptions and in contributions, how quickly and how thoroughly they can accomplish this end.

Publications received at Editor's Office, Oct. 28.—Nov. 2.

- BELL, A. M. Popular Manual of Vocal Physiology and Visible Speech. New York, N. D. C. Hodges and E. S. Werner; London, Triibner. 59 p. 16°. 50 cents.
- CORSON, H. An Introduction to the Study of Shakespeare. Boston, Heath. 377 p. 12°.
- JURY, The. Vol. I. No. 1. w. Rochester, N.Y. W. M. Butler. 18 p. 4°. \$2 per year.
- MCCRAY, Florine Thayer. The Life-Work of the Author of Uncle Tom's Cabin. New York and London, Funk & Wagnalls. 440 p. 12°. \$2.
- MYERS, P. V. N. Ancient History for Colleges and High Schools. Part I. The Eastern Nations and Greece. Boston, Ginn. 369 p. 12°. \$1.10.

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— E. & F. N. Spon announce as in preparation, "Practical Electrics," a universal handybook on every-day electrical matters, including connections, alarms, batteries, coils, dynamo-machines, motors, phonographs, telephones, etc., reprinted from the third series of "Workshop Receipts;" "Treatise on Evaporation by the Multiple System in Vacuum, its Construction and Working in Sugar Factories," by James Foster; "Experimental Science: Treatise on the Various Topics of Physics in a Popular and Practical Way," by George M. Hopkins; "The Steam Engine and the Indicator," by William B. Le Van; and "A Practical Treatise on Mine Engineering," by G. C. Greenwell, F.G.S., third edition, reprinted from the second.

— The eighth edition is in preparation, to be ready in January, of "The Electrician," electrical trades' directory and handbook for 1890 (corrected to December, 1889). This will contain a carefully compiled list of British, colonial, and foreign electricians, electrical engineers, electric-light engineers and contractors, electrical-apparatus makers, electric-bell makers and fitters, electric-light, telegraph, and telephone companies, electric-light, telegraph, and telephone engineers, wire makers and drawers, and of all persons engaged in electrical pursuits throughout the world; useful tables relating to dynamos, arc and incandescent lamps, batteries, etc.; and a biographical section, giving interesting particulars concerning eminent men connected with electricity in all its applications, with portraits. Full particulars will be sent immediately on application to "The Electrician" Office, 1 Salisbury Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

— D. C. Heath & Co. of Boston have issued "An Introduction to the Study of Shakespeare," by Hiram Corson. It does not cover all the ground that an introduction ought to cover, for it gives no account of the dramatist's life, nor of the state of the English drama in his time; and many other points necessary to a thorough understanding of Shakespeare are left unnoticed. Still it presents a good deal of matter in a concise though not very artistic style. There is quite an elaborate discussion of Shakespeare's verse, and many pages of textual criticism, the latter of which seems hardly appropriate in an introductory work. But the greater part of the book is taken up with literary criticisms on certain of the plays, — "Romeo and Juliet," "Macbeth," "Hamlet," and others. In these criticisms Professor Corson expresses strong dissent on certain points from the views of Coleridge and the German critics; but we have no space to discuss the questions thus raised, and must refer the interested reader to the book itself.

— The division of ornithology and mammalogy of the United States Department of Agriculture is engaged in mapping the geographical distribution of birds and mammals, in addition to the study of their economic relations. The purpose of this work is to ascertain the boundaries of the natural faunal areas of North America. The original information on which the maps are based is collected mainly by the special field agents employed by the division. A smaller portion is contributed by voluntary observers. In the progress of the work many new facts are obtained which ought to be put on record for the benefit of other workers in this department of science. It is not unusual to find new species in the collections made by the field agents of the division, and such species must be named and assigned their proper systematic position before they can be discussed intelligently. It is evident that the results of the investigations of the division are of importance to two distinct classes of readers, — farmers and naturalists. It is deemed desirable, therefore, to publish such of the results as are of use mainly to those engaged in scientific research separately from those of a more purely economic character. The publication of the economic material being already provided for (and appearing as bulletins and reports), it has been decided to publish a series of faunal papers, under the title "North American Fauna." This publication will contain, in addition to the faunal papers proper, such technical matter as results from the study of the material collected, or as may be necessary to an intelligent understanding of the reports which follow. No attempt will be made to issue the separate numbers at regular intervals, but each number will bear date of actual publication. The first of the series is "A Preliminary Revision of

the North American Pocket Mice" (genera *Perognathus* et *Crice-todipus* auct.), with descriptions of new species and subspecies, and a key to the known forms, by Dr. C. Hart Merriam. This contribution toward a revision of the North American pocket-mice is the outgrowth of a recent attempt to identify a large number of specimens for the purpose of mapping their geographical distribution. The results are wholly unexpected. Only six species were previously recognized. This number is here increased to eighteen. Three subspecies also are described, and several well-known names are shifted to forms other than those to which they have been heretofore commonly applied. The present revision of the group is by no means exhaustive: it is intended merely as a foundation for future study.

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.

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

On request, twenty copies of the number containing his communication will be furnished free to any correspondent.

The Various Discoveries of Lake Mistassini.

IN being persistently discovered, the now unmythical Lake Mistassini has a record not surpassed by the "true" source of the Mississippi. If the lake in question were some recent upstart, grovelling in quaternary detritus, one might pardon such unseemly conduct; but a severed body of water, quietly slumbering in Archæan rocks, has a right to resent such intrusions on its privacy. Furthermore, it is a sacred lake, dedicated to the Great Spirit; for on its bank, one historian informs us, there were found "*autre curieux de marbre d'environ 30 à 35 pieds en quaré; sa route est de 8 à 9 pieds de haut. Les sauvages l'appellent Tchichi Manitou Quitchonap, la maison du Grand Esprit*" (sic).

Its first discovery, more than two hundred years ago, is forgotten except to the dusty pigeon-holes of the Department of Crown Lands. Its last gestation required the combined services of half a score of explorers and a great metropolitan journal to exploit it. In the mean time, still another journal which is daily read by more than a quarter of a million of people was frantically demanding to be informed whether the lake had an actual existence, or whether, like the fountain of perpetual youth, it lay just beyond the end of the rainbow.

Briefly stated, Lake Mistassini was discovered by Father Abanel, a Jesuit, in 1672. It appears on Franquelin's map of New France ("Carte de l'Amerique Septentrionale") under the name of "Lac Timagaming." On this map the shape of the lake is fairly shown, and the long peninsula at the southern end is clearly recognizable. Generally the outlines of the lake, though roughly charted, are tolerable accurate. Franquelin seems to have been a competent topographer, and the slopes and drainage of the country surrounding the lake are reasonably correct. The Heights of Land (*Hauteurs des Terres*), or divide between the St. Lawrence and the Arctic basin, are correctly charted. The outlet of the lake, Rupert River, is followed to Baye du Nord, now called "James Bay." On his map there appears a lake much larger than Lake Mistassini lying to the south-west. This, in all probability, is Lac St. Jean of Père Laure's map; it is, however, greatly exaggerated.

Père Laure, a Jesuit missionary who explored the region about fifty years afterwards, was a man of far more than ordinary ability. He may not have been a trained surveyor, but his keen perception and faithful work more than balance any lacking in that direction. He explored and mapped a large part of the region between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and James Bay, and his manuscript map is now in the archives of the minister of marine, in Paris. The map herewith presented is reproduced from a tracing of a portion of the original. As late as 1866, a reproduction of this map appears in a work by Father Charlevoix. Still more recently, the "Atlas de Géographie Militaire," compiled for the Military Academy at San Cyr, contains a map of a part of the Dominion of Canada, evidently edited from Father Laure's map.

Less than ten years since, Lake Mistassini was again ruthlessly disturbed by a discovery. This time its dimensions were enlarged