

Howard of Leland Stanford, Jr., University; H. V. Ames of the University of Michigan; W. H. Mace of Syracuse University; Ernest Mischler of Prague; R. H. Inglis Palgrave of London; the late Alfred Jourdan of Aix; Paul Heilborn of Berlin; A. Brückner and George Staehr of Kasan.

— A Spanish edition of the Story of the Nations series is being issued in Madrid under arrangements with the Putnams. Gilman's "Story of the Saracens" in this series is now being printed in raised letters for the use of the blind. The next volumes to be issued in the series are Freeman's "Story of Sicily," Oman's "Story of the Byzantine Empire," and Miss Duff's "Story of the Tuscan Republics."

— With the number for January, 1892, the *Educational Review* opens its third volume. Professor Jenks of Cornell has a paper on "Educational Values," particularly with reference to the college curriculum, and controverting the position taken by Professor Patten in an earlier number. Superintendent Marble of Worcester, Mass., makes some practical suggestions concerning the teaching of the effective use of English. Professor Richards of Yale contrasts the old and the new methods of teaching geometry; and Principal Grant of Queen's College, Kingston, Ontario, replies to Bishop Spalding's earlier argument for religious instruction in State schools. Important articles appear also on school savings banks in England, and the effect of manual training upon

health. The discussion on city school supervision is continued by Superintendent Tarbell of Providence, and that on practice teaching by President W. J. Hille of Albany. Other discussions are by the editor in-chief and Principal Owen of Saco, Me. Book reviews are contributed by Professors McLaughlin and Cameron of Yale, Oren Root of Hamilton, Gill of the Smithsonian Institution, and others.

— *The Electrical Engineer* will begin the new year with a series of articles on the electrical and magnetic discoveries of Professor Joseph Henry — the Faraday of America — by his daughter, Miss Mary A. Henry of Washington, with notes by Mr. Franklin Leonard Pope. Additional and pathetic interest is given this series by the fact that it is practically a vindication by filial hands of Henry's claims to the discovery of magneto-electricity, at a time when his work has been suffered to fall into neglect and oblivion. At the recent Electrical Congress at Frankfort, Germany, the proposition of the American delegates to name after Henry an important new unit applying to facts that he was the first to observe and investigate, failed of assent, and was postponed until the Chicago Electrical Congress of 1893, many of the European delegates saying they had never heard of Henry.

— We may regard it as certain that an apparent connection between infectious diseases and atmospheric conditions had suggested itself to the medical mind long before Sydenham attributed

CALENDAR OF SOCIETIES.

Philosophical Society, Washington.

Jan. 2.—F. H. Newell, Fluctuations of Discharge of Western Rivers; J. R. Eastman, The Mexican Meteorites.

Society of Natural History, Boston.

Jan. 6.—Percival Lowell, Shinto Occultism from a Scientific Standpoint; E. S. Morse, On the Form of the Ancient Bow in Various Parts of the World.

NEO-DARWINISM AND NEO-LAMARCKISM.

By LESTER F. WARD.

Annual address of the President of the Biological Society of Washington delivered Jan. 24, 1891. A historical and critical review of modern scientific thought relative to heredity, and especially to the problem of the transmission of acquired characters. The following are the several heads involved in the discussion: Status of the Problem, Lamarckism, Darwinism, Acquired Characters, Theories of Heredity, Views of Mr. Galton, Teachings of Professor Weismann, A Critique of Weismann, Neo-Darwinism, Neo-Lamarckism, the American "School," Application to the Human Race. In so far as views are expressed they are in the main in line with the general current of American thought, and opposed to the extreme doctrine of the non-transmissibility of acquired characters.

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