

Regarded as a college exercise it deserves cordial praise; but as a contribution to historical literature it cannot be said to have much value.

— In the second of *The Century's* articles on "The Jews in New York," in the February number, social customs, weddings, schools, etc., are treated, and the illustrations include several views of the new Temple Beth-El, the interior of the Progress Club, etc.

— A recent number of "The World's Great Explorers" series (Dodd) is Captain Albert Hastings Markham's "Life of Sir John Franklin." The story of the life of such a man, a skilful sailor, an ardent explorer, an able administrator, and a daring and successful Arctic navigator to whom the world owes, directly and indirectly, its knowledge of a very large portion of the Arctic basin, should not remain untold, especially in view of the meagreness of hitherto published authentic material. The closing chapters, treating of the various expeditions despatched in search of Franklin, contain valuable suggestion and comment as to the conduct of navigators exploring high latitudes. The volume is provided with the maps and charts requisite to intelligent reading, as well as with several illustrations.

— The late Henry Edwards, the actor, wrote more than 150 books, pamphlets and articles, chiefly on topics of Natural History, and all these were published at various times and in various places. Mr. William Bentenmüller, of the American Museum of

Natural History, has contributed to *The Canadian Entomologist* (London, December, 1891, Vol. 23, No. 12) a complete list of these writings. It fills more than eight pages, and it is strikingly suggestive of the ample learning and devoted labor of the author, whose place among men of science was even more distinguished than his rank upon the stage.

— In the February *Atlantic*, Professor Rodolfo Lanciani, author of "Ancient Rome in the Light of Recent Discoveries," contributes a paper on "The Pageant at Rome in the Year 17 B.C.," giving the details of some inscriptions very recently discovered commemorating the celebration of secular games under Augustus, for which Horace wrote his famous "Carmen Seclulare."

— A new danger threatens English publishers. In future they will have to be careful that the titles of the works they publish correspond with the contents, otherwise they will lay themselves open to a prosecution for obtaining money under false pretences. Such is the lesson taught by a recent decision of Sir Frederick Darley, the Chief-Justice of New South Wales. A Sydney firm issued a work in two volumes entitled "Australian Men of Mark." A subscriber refused to pay, on the ground that his biography was not included in the work, as was promised. The publishers sued him; the Chief-Justice went through the book and declared that no action could lie, inasmuch as the book was not what it professed to be. The people whose biographies it contained had a mere local celebrity in the towns where they resided. They were

#### CALENDAR OF SOCIETIES.

##### Philosophical Society, Washington.

Jan. 30.—Joseph LeConte, The Relation of Philosophy to Psychology and to Physiology.

##### Society of Natural History, Boston.

Feb. 3.—J. Eliot Wolff, the Geology of the Crazy Mountains, Montana; Walter G. Chase, The Scenery, Glaciers, and Indians of Alaska.

##### Appalachian Mountain Club, Boston.

Feb. 3.—Arthur L. Goodrich, The Water-vex Valley; Roswell B. Lawrence, Middlesex Fells; Charles E. Fay, An Excursion Over the Whiteface Tripyramid Ridge.

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**WANTED.**—*Science*, No. 178, July 2, 1886, also Index and Title-page to Vol. VII. Address N. D. C. HODGES, 874 Broadway, New York.

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Wanted to buy or exchange a copy of Holbrook's North American Herpetology, by John Edwards, 5 vols. Philadelphia, 1842. G. BAUR, Clark University, Worcester, Mass.

For sale or exchange, LeConte, "Geology;" Quain, "Anatomy," 2 vols.; Foster, "Physiology," Eng. edition; Shepard, Appleton, Elliott, and Stern, "Chemistry;" Jordan, "Manual of Vertebrates;" "International Scientists' Directory;" Vol. I. *Journal of Morphology*; Bal-four, "Embryology," 2 vols.; Leidy, "Rhizopods;" *Science*, 18 vols., unbound. C. T. MCCLINTOCK, Lexington, Ky.

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not sufficiently widely known to be called "Australian Men of Mark," and so the Chief-Justice decided against the enterprising publishers. Furthermore, the Chief-Justice ruled that all contracts entered into on account of the book, and not yet carried out, were null and void.

—Manganine is the name of a new alloy, consisting of copper, nickel, and manganese, which has been brought on the market, says the *Engineering and Mining Journal*, by the German firm, Abler, Haas, & Angerstein, as a material of great resisting power. The specific resistance of manganine is given as forty-two microhm centimetres; that is, higher than that of nickeline, which has hitherto passed as the best resisting metal. Another advantage of manganine is its behavior under variations of heat, the resistance, it is claimed, being affected only in a minute degree by high temperatures. It is therefore adapted for the manufacture of measuring instruments and electrical apparatus in general, which are

required to vary their resistance as little as possible under different degrees of heat. A further interesting fact is that while other metals increase their resistance by the raising of the temperature, that of manganine is diminished.

—M. de Quatrefages, the well-known anthropologist, died on Tuesday, January 12. He was born, says *Nature*, in 1810, and studied medicine at Strasburg. Afterwards he became professor of zoology at Toulouse, where he had settled as a medical practitioner. In 1855 he was made professor of anthropology and ethnology at the Jardin de Plantes, Paris. He had already been admitted to the Academy of Sciences in 1852, and he was an honorary member of many foreign learned societies. Numerous friends and pupils were present at the funeral, and addresses were delivered by M. Milne-Edwards, and other men of science. The most famous of his writings are his "Crania Ethnica" and "Études des Races Humaines."

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