

the beast, it was as still as if cut from stone. The bird quivered, trembled, looked fixedly at the cat, and finally, with a feeble shake of the wings, fell towards the cat, which bounded to seize it.

A lady tells me that she "does not believe that cats can charm birds, because she has seen a cat try to charm a parrot, and the bird, greatly alarmed, scolded loudly." This proves nothing, the parrot in general, or, more probably, that particular parrot, did not prove a good subject for the mesmeric power. I have seen people who cannot be hypnotized; they resent the effort, and nervous action becomes intensified.

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#### AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

THE W. J. Johnson Co., limited, have ready "The Electric Railway in Theory and Practice," a complete treatise on the construction and operation of electric railways, by O. T. Crosby and Dr. Louis Bell, fully illustrated and wholly practical.

—Henry Holt & Co. will shortly publish a translation of "Geschichte der Philosophie," by Dr. W. Windelband, professor in the University of Strassburg.

—Thomas Nelson's Sons have ready an entirely new atlas by J. G. Bartholomew, entitled "The Graphic Atlas and Gazetteer of the World," with over two hundred and twenty maps, charts, plans of cities, etc., all revised to present date, and a gazetteer of nearly 55,000 places and results of new census. Throughout the

atlas the countries of the world have been treated with fulness in proportion to their commercial importance and interest. In the United States section a separate map is given of each of the States and Territories. The Canadian provinces are treated in similar detail. The maps have been specially compiled from the latest and best government survey maps, and have undergone local revision for the verification of new counties, townships, and railways. Considering the vast amount of information given, the atlas is a marvel of compactness and practicability.

—The most important work on the general study of linguistic science that has appeared in 1891 is that of Professor Georg von der Gabelentz, "Die Sprachwissenschaft, ihre Aufgaben, Methoden und bisherigen Ergebnisse," Leipzig (Weigel, publisher), pp. xx. and 502. The wide-reaching and comprehensive scope of this treatise is shown by the very title, and readers will soon see that the author fulfils what he promises. Through his great practical experience the author, well known as a connoisseur of eastern Asiatic languages, is enabled to give more hints about linguistic studies and their scientific bearing than such men as have confined their energies to inflective languages alone. The volume gives us the views of a man familiar with all possible types of human speech, the monosyllabic as well as the incorporating and agglutinative, and introduces us in the most fascinating way into all the morphologic intricacies of the verb, noun-verb, and sentence. In its make-up the book comes nearest the celebrated "Principles of Language History," by Paul, and supplements it in many different

#### CALENDAR OF SOCIETIES.

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ways, as it does also the works of Friedrich Müller and Whitney. There is no chapter in language-study which is not fruitfully hinted at or fully treated by the author: the composing of grammars, the analytic compared with the synthetic system, the various phonetic modes of recording languages, the medley languages, theory of roots, the tests of affinity, the possibility of composing scientific dictionaries, the analysis which is inherent in etymologic research, synonymic dictionaries, etc.

— Dr. Andrew D. White will open the March *Popular Science Monthly* with a chapter on "Astronomy" in his Warfare of Science series. The strenuous exertions made by both the Catholic and the Protestant clergy to suppress the teachings of Copernicus and Galileo are set forth in this article with such strong evidence as to admit of no denial or shifting of responsibility. "The Organ" will be the subject of the article in the American Industries series. The author, Mr. Daniel Spillane, describes some of the

noted instruments in the United States, and shows that American organ builders have made good use of the scope for individuality which their art allows. The article is fully illustrated. Under the title "Social Statistics of Cities," the March number will have a paper by Carroll D. Wright, comparing the area and population, and the cost of each department of public works, in fifty cities of the United States. The comparison contradicts some prevailing opinions as to what cities have the most expensive governments. "The Cotton Industry of Brazil" will be described by John C. Branner, formerly assistant geologist of the Brazilian Geological Survey. Mr. Branner believes that the production and manufacture of cotton in Brazil is destined to increase, but that the country will not become a competitor of the United States in this industry.

— "Darwin after Darwin," is the title of a book that George J. Romanes is preparing.

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