

graph, p. 155, in which, as I read it, he eludes and dodges the question.

More and more thought in the matter only convinces me in greater degree that these words of mine "The writer does not for a moment combat the well-exhibited inheritance of peculiar appearance and traits of a man from his father or mother, his grandparents or great-grandparents, or in rare cases from great-great-grandparents, but beyond these limits the historian has little to encourage him in his attempt beyond uncertain and traditionary tales" (Rejoinder, p. 157) are safely within the truth.

Considering that "Enquirer" knows relatively nothing of 99.91 per cent of his emigrant ancestors, I still frankly disbelieve that he can locate traits or characteristics of John Doe the first, in any living descendant, with truth. However dear a hobby or theory may grow to a man, unless facts fully substantiate the theory, and it be capable of proof, it is questionable honesty and mistaken wisdom to give that theory currency as if it were fact.

As far as I can group and draw inferences from the facts, on an average the maternal blood has almost, if not full as much, influence in determining the traits and appearance of offspring as the paternal,—this with reference to human beings.

With some one hundred living descendants of a man (the man and descendants included in four generations) I have had intimate acquaintance, and neither in those bearing his surname, nor the males by themselves, nor in all together, does there appear one common trait or characteristic, which state of things I consider due to the great influence of new strains of blood brought in by marriage.

Being as yet too young, personally, to claim the experience necessary to theorize concerning likenesses, I feel that my only safety is in stating fact. I have made a specialty of gathering the likenesses of my ancestors and close relations, and from oil paintings, through silhouettes, daguerreotypes, and ambrotypes to photographs, I honestly see as much in appearance derived from the maternal blood as from the paternal. Photographs are of too recent origin, however, to affect the argument I put forward.

Could those who are interested in the matter alter their point of view long enough to realize the blending, the existing cousinship, to realize that the living child of old New England parentage has relatives (sixth cousins and nearer) to easily populate Boston, Mass., and to spare, such a light will come to them as will widen, enlarge, and much more than offset the narrow views now cherished.

"VERITAS."

#### BOOK-REVIEWS.

*Helen Keller: Souvenir of the First Summer Meeting of the American Association to Promote the Teaching of Speech to the Deaf. Second Edition. Washington, Volta Bureau. 1892. Large. 4°.*

THE great interest aroused in the education of the blind and the deaf by the remarkable story of the life of Laura Bridgman is destined to be eclipsed by the most astounding educational strides of the twelve-year-old Helen Keller. Blind and deaf since her eighteenth month, she receives her first instruction in language at seven years, she learns in days what it required months for Laura Bridgman to acquire, and within a year has a fund of knowledge and a capacity for using it quite remarkable for an eight-year-old child in full possession of the five senses. Her interest in her surroundings, her retentive memory, and appreciative imagination, her capacity to learn and reproduce are wonderful enough, but they are outdone by her remarkably quick and, from all accounts, remarkably exact acquisition of vocal speech. By placing her hands upon the mouth, lips, and throat of the speaker, she learns the position of the speech-making organs when uttering the different sounds; setting her own vocal organs in the same position she reproduces the sound, correcting it according to the instructions (by the finger alphabet) of her teacher,—an acquisition difficult enough when guided by the eye, but certainly marvelous for one both blind and deaf.

It is only natural that her story should excite interest everywhere, and the present memoir of her education tells the salient

points of her life. It is admirably prepared, and contains an excellent portrait and *facsimiles* of her very remarkable letters. It is to be hoped that all the details of her career will be carefully noted and that the present is only an introduction to a fuller and more complete account of Helen Keller. It is certainly proper that the sympathy in her case should be used to excite an interest in the education of the deaf and the blind, and the souvenir will aid in this meritorious work.

*Bacteriological Diagnosis: Tabular Aids for Use in Practical Work.* By JAMES EISENBERG, Ph.D., M.D., Vienna. Translated and augmented with the permission of the author from the second German edition, by NORVAL H. PIERCE, M.D., Surgeon to the Outdoor Department of Michael Reese Hospital; Assistant to Surgical Clinic, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago, Ill. F. A. Davis & Co., Philadelphia and London. 1892.

THIS is, without exception, the worst translation that has ever fallen into our hands. Not only this, but it exhibits throughout an utter ignorance of bacteriology on the part of the translator. We cannot but express the greatest astonishment at the temerity shown by the translator in attempting the task, deficient as he evidently is not only in the knowledge of the German language but also in the subject treated. To set forth all the errors would be to write another book, so we will make but a few quotations to show that our condemnation is not too severe.

Beginning with the first page, we find in the preface "a bacteria" occurring twice instead of "a bacterium," and "bacteriae" instead of "bacteria." In the index, *Bacillus "subtilis"* instead of "subtilis" is seen, which might be an oversight if it were not again misspelt at the head of the tabulated description (No. 14) which deals with this organism. We will pass over a vast number of comparatively small mistakes such as the translations "pretty" for "schön," "nourishing-ground" for "Nährboden," "faint" for "matt" (dull), "spirules" and "spirillae" for "spirilla," "flagellæ" for "flagella," "color-glass" for "Blende" (diaphragm), "object-glass" for slide, "éprouvette" for test-tube, "whitish fimbria" for "weislichen Saum" ("whitish border" would be more the author's meaning), and "slim staves" or "stuffs" for "schlanke Stäbchen" (we usually speak of "rods" when speaking of bacilli). Wherever microscopic measurements are given we find "m." (meters) instead of "μ." On pages 14, 15 and 57, minus signs are omitted from in front of temperatures ranging from  $-10^{\circ}$  to  $-20^{\circ}$  C., thus taking all meaning out of the translation.

Serious errors would be represented by such translations as these, taken at random: P. 17, where the growing out of the *Bacillus subtilis* from spores is described "Stäbchen sprossen senkrecht auf die Längsachse der Sporen aus," translated "Staves sprout in the direction of long axis of spores." P. 24, "Häufchen, die zu einer kernigen, brauner Masse mit abgerundeten Ecken zusammenfließen," translated "heaps, which amalgamate into a seedy, brown mass." Same page, "Umfangreiche, schnelle Verflüssigung, vom ganzen Impfstich gleichmässig ausgehend; gelbliche Verfärbung," translated "Growth elaborate, yellow, and quickly liquefying. The growth spreads from the entire inoculation point." P. 53, "im Condensationswasser," translated "in the water expressed in desiccation." P. 57, "Im Darminhalt von frischen Choleraleichen und Stuhlentleerungen Cholera-kranker," translated "In the intestinal canals of recently moribund cholera patients and from the fæces of the same." Same page, "Am Anfang des Stichkanals bildet sich ein kleiner Trichter, es tritt Verflüssigung längs des Impfstichs ein, an der Oberfläche entsteht luftblasenartige tiefe Eisenkung," translated "Liquefaction begins slowly, commencing at the entrance of the puncture around an inclosed air bubble." Same page again, "nach Unterbindung der Gallengänge," translated "after ligation of the intestine below the bile duct." On p. 63 one's astonishment is somewhat increased by finding "verschiedenartige Zeichnung" translated "indifferent pictures." "Wasserstoff" (hydrogen) translated "water" — "ohne Sauerstoffzufuhr" as "without addition of acid." On p. 72, "Schnittpräparaten" (sections) translated "excised preparations." On p. 79, instead of "Rausch-

brandbacillus" we find "anthrax bacillus." It is pleasing to read (p. 86) that the spore formation of *Bacillus anthracis* "occurs most plenteous at breeding temperature." We cannot agree that the equivalent of the German "welche in der Richtung der Längsachse der Mutterzelle auskeimen," is given in "which spring from the long axes of the maternal cells." On p. 96, where the effects of the injection of *Staphylococcus pyogenes aureus* into the blood-vessels are considered, "nach Lädierung der Herzklappen" is translated "later they attack the valves of the heart," and so we might go on indefinitely.

In the third German edition of this book, which appeared in 1891, 376 micro-organisms are described, whilst this translation of the second edition appears in 1892 and describes some 133 micro-organisms. The appendix belonging to the third German edition, which was not present in the second edition, has been added to the translation of the latter. We have not noticed much that is "augmented" in the translation, but much that is distorted and misstated. The climax was reached when we found the *Plasmodium malarie* (not mentioned in Eisenberg at all) classified under the heading "Pathogenic Bacteria." In justice to the publishers, we are only too happy to remark that the printing, and especially the binding of this book are well done.

On one point the translator justly gives himself credit, and that is in the preface where he says, "The arrangement of the text has been somewhat changed from the original." G. H. F. N.

# AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

A GUIDE-BOOK is a *sine qua non* to the average American bound for a summer's trip in Europe. But, aside from the stock information which the regulation books of that class contain, there is a large number of questions in regard to foreign things and ways which remain open, and it is to help the tourist to just such additional and most necessary information that Brentano's, New York, has just brought out "Abroad and at Home," by Morris Phillips, the well-known editor of *The Home Journal*. In this book can be found accounts of the author's experiences while in Great Britain and France, and the close of the volume contains much similar information about our Southern States and the Pacific Coast, this last justifying the "At Home" in the title.

— Thomas Curtis Clarke, the eminent engineer, in the June number of *Scribner's* will suggest a solution for the problem of rapid transit as it now confronts the cities of New York, Chicago, and Boston. The New York plan, which he favors, involves a new street with an open-air viaduct on one side of it, abutting on great warehouses, the lower stories of which enter directly into the tunnel for freight trains beneath the viaduct.

— Messrs. Macmillan & Co. are about to issue, under the title of "Calmire" (a name of French origin, pronounced Calmère), an exposition, through the medium of a story, of that scientific explanation of the basis of morals, for which many are seeking out-

## CALENDAR OF SOCIETIES.

### Society of Natural History, Boston.

May 18.—J. S. Kingsley, Notes on the Anatomy of Amphibia; W. O. Crosby, On Some Evidences of Tertiary Deposits in the Boston Basin.

### Biological Society, Washington.

May 14.—W. H. Seaman, The Photogenic Organs of Fireflies; C. Hart Merriam, A New Prairie Dog from Mexico; Charles Hallock, Where Salt-Water Fishes Hide: Results of Deep-Water Seining; Theo. Holm, Additions to the Flora of Washington (with exhibition of specimens); Frederick V. Coville, The Use of Certain Terms in Geographic Distribution.

## Publications Received at Editor's Office.

BERNARD, HENRY MEYERS. The Apodidae. New York, Macmillan & Co. 12°. 896 p. \$2.  
BUTLER, AMOS W. The Birds of Indiana. Brookville, Ind., Wm. B. Burford, printer. 8°. paper. 135 p.  
NÄGELI, CARL AND SCHWENDENER, S. The Microscope in Theory and Practice. Trans. from the German. 2d ed. New York, Macmillan & Co. 8°. 394 p., ill. \$2.60.  
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION. Report of the National Museum for the year ending June 30, 1891. Washington, Government. 8°. 954 p.  
U. S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES. First Report. 1890-1891. Washington, Government. 8°. 56 p.  
WEED, ALONZO R. Business Law. Revised ed. Boston, D. C. Heath & Co. 8°. 172 p. \$1.10.

## Business Department.

The Rose Polytechnic Institute, Terre Haute, Ind., advertised in this issue, is one of the few well-endowed and well-equipped schools of a college grade in the United States devoted exclusively to the professional education of Mechanical, Electrical and Civil Engineers and Chemists. Very special attention is devoted to Electricity. Send for catalogue.

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To exchange: Experiment Station bulletins and reports for bulletins and reports not in my file. I will send list of what I have for exchange. P. H. ROLES, Lake City, Florida.

Finished specimens of all colors of Vermont marble for fine fossils or crystals. Will be given only for valuable specimens because of the cost of polishing. GEO. W. PERRY, State Geologist, Rutland, Vt.

For exchange.—Three copies of "American State Papers Bearing on Sunday Legislation," 1891, \$2.50, new and unused, for "The Sabbath," by Harmon Kingsbury, 1840; "The Sabbath," by A. A. Phelps, 1842; "History of the Institution of the Sabbath Day, Its Uses and Abuses," by W. L. Fisher, 1859; "Humorous Phases of the Law," by Irving Browne; or other works amounting to value of books exchanged, on the question of governmental legislation in reference to religion, personal liberty, etc. If preferred, I will sell "American State Papers," and buy other books on the subject. WILLIAM ADDISON BLAKELY, Chicago, Ill.

For Sale or Exchange for books a complete private chemical laboratory outfit. Includes large Becker balance (200g. to 1-10mg.), platinum dishes and crucibles, agate mortars, glass-blowing apparatus, etc. For sale in part or whole. Also complete file of *Silliman's Journal*, 1862-1885 (62-71 bound); Smithsonian Reports, 1854-1883; U. S. Coast Survey, 1854-1869. Full particulars to enquirers. F. GARDINER, JR., Pomfret, Conn.

Wanted, in exchange for the following works, any standard works on Surgery and on Diseases of Children: Wilson's "American Ornithology," 3 vols.; Coues' "Birds of the Northwest" and "Birds of the Colorado Valley," 2 vols.; Minot's "Land and Game Birds of New England"; Samuels' "Our Northern and Eastern Birds"; all the Reports on the Birds of the Pacific R. R. Survey, bound in 2 vols., morocco; and a complete set of the Reports of the Arkansas Geological Survey. Please give editions and dates in corresponding. R. ELLSWORTH CALL, High School, Des Moines, Iowa.

To exchange Wright's "Ice Age in North America" and Le Conte's "Elements of Geology" (Copyright 1882) for "Darwinism," by A. R. Wallace, "Origin of Species," by Darwin, "Descent of Man," by Darwin, "Man's Place in Nature," Huxley, "Mental Evolution in Animals," by Romanes, "Pre-Adamites," by Winchell. No books wanted except latest editions, and books in good condition. C. S. Brown, Jr., Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

## Wants.

Any person seeking a position for which he is qualified by his scientific attainments, or any person seeking some one to fill a position of this character, be it that of a teacher of science, chemist, draughtsman, or what not, may have the "Want" inserted under this head FREE OF COST, if he satisfies the publisher of the suitable character of his application. Any person seeking information on any scientific question, the address of any scientific man, or who can in any way use this column for a purpose consonant with the nature of the paper, is cordially invited to do so.

WANTED.—A teacher of Geology who is familiar with the fossils of the Hamilton Group, as instructor of Geology during July next at the Natural Science Camp on Canandaigua lake. Apply to ALBERT L. AREY, Director, 229 Averill Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

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ADDRESS WANTED.—Will some one please send the address of the Secretary of the American Philological Society. Also that of Herbert Spencer. "ADDISON," Room 84, 164 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

ADDRESSES of Old Book Dealers wanted.—Wishing to obtain a number of old books out of print, I very much desire the addresses or catalogues of rare second-hand book dealers. If there is a directory or list of such dealers I should like to obtain possession of one. W. A. BLAKELY, Chicago, Ill.