

acquired characters by them are also discussed in detail with reference to recent observations.

— We learn from *Nature* that Mr. R. H. Scott has contributed an article entitled "Notes on the Climate of the British Isles," to *Longman's Magazine*. The author gives some amusing instances of the distortion of facts at seaside stations, where the observers are anxious to prove the advantages of their own towns over those of their rivals. Taking the whole year round, the warmest spot is the Scilly Isles, which are a degree warmer than either the west of Cornwall or the Channel Islands; while the coldest region on the coast is the extreme north-east of Aberdeenshire. In winter very little difference of temperature is met with all along the east coast; but the coldest part of England lies round the Wash. With regard to the variability of temperature, or the difference of the mean temperature of an entire day, the equability of the temperature of these islands is very great. The only locality for which a more uniform temperature has yet been published is Georgetown, Demerara; the figure for this place is 1.1°, while for London is 2.7°. All the great changes of temperature occur in winter, and accompany sudden thaws. As regards bright sunshine, the Channel Islands are by far the most favored. On the mean of the whole year Jersey secures 39 per cent; but from the Bristol Channel to the coast of Norfolk there is but little difference in the amounts recorded. In cities like London the deficiency is due to smoke. The statistics relating to fog are not

yet completely discussed, but so far as they go they show that in winter the foggiest district is the east coast of England. Next come London and Oxford, which are about equal. With regard to rainfall the east coast stations receive on an average of the whole year about half as much as those on the west coast, the amount being about 25 inches on the east coast, 30 to 40 inches between Sussex and Devonshire, and fifty inches to the south of Cornwall. In the west of Ireland the amount rises to 70 or 80 inches, owing to high land near the coast. The driest hour almost everywhere is noon.

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Publications Received at Editor's Office.

- DOLBEAR, A. E. Matter, Ether and Motion. Boston, Lee & Shepard. 13°. 342 p. \$1.75.
FLETCHER, L. The Optical Indicatrix. London, Henry Frowde. New York, Macmillan & Co. 8°. 124 p.
HATCH, F. H. Mineralogy. London, Whittaker & Co. 12°. 132 p. \$1.
MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN. Annual Report, 1892. The Trustees. 8°. 170 p.
TROY, DANIEL S. The Value of Money. Montgomery, Ala., Brown Printing Co. 8°. Paper. 26 p.
YEAR-BOOK of the Scientific and Learned Societies of Great Britain and Ireland. London, Charles Griffin & Co. 8°. 289 p.

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on historical facts and truly Indian sociological conditions, and, as such, are just as valuable to us as many facts recorded by official historiographers of the white race. What we need for their understanding is a profound and not a desultory study of these and other Indian pieces of oral literature. Students to whom the volume has not been sent should apply for it to the member of their congressional constituency.

— The following are from the table of contents of the July number of *The Chautauquan*: Overland by the Southern Pacific, by Fannie C. W. Barbour; Hay Fever as an Idiosyncrasy, by J. M. Cooper, M.D.; In the Snake River Valley, Part II., by John R. Spears; Historic Quebec, by Edith Sessions Tupper; Summer Vacations and Physical Culture, by J. M. Buckley; The Beginnings and Endings of Centuries, by Count Charles de Mouy; Some American Chemists, by Marcus Benjamin; The Great Exposition at Chicago, by Noble Canby; Why American Children are Nervous, by Mrs. L. E. Chittenden; Marriage in Nanking, by Harriet Linn Beebe.

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