

gled with the true Mongoloid Malays throughout the Oceanic domain (Indian and Pacific Oceans). But my object here is merely to establish my priority claim for the American readers of *Science*, who are referred to the above quoted monograph for the detailed treatment of these interesting questions.

A. H. KEANE.

79 Broadhurst Gardens, South Hampstead, N. W., July 21.

Sound and Color.

WITHOUT in the least doubting the accuracy of Dr. Wallian's curious observations respecting the appearance of color about the heads of public speakers, I would just suggest the possibility of another explanation.

I have myself frequently observed, when listening to various preachers, a patch of rich blue color near to the head of the speaker. I have always attributed this, however, to the well-known effect upon the retina of fatigue from the continued impression of one color giving rise to a phantasm of the complementary color. The face of a speaker is some tint of flesh color. The eye of the listener is fixed upon the face, and in a short time the complementary phantasm makes its appearance, always some tint of blue or purple, according to the complexion of the speaker.

This will not, of course, explain all the phenomena mentioned by Professor Underwood and Dr. Wallian, but it is a factor which should not be forgotten in discussing the subject.

F. T. MOTT.

Leicester, England.

BOOK-REVIEWS.

A Biographical Index of British and Irish Botanists. By JAMES BRITTEN and G. S. BOULGER. London, West, Newman & Co., 1893. 203 p.

MESSRS. Britten and Boulger have republished in book form their "Index of British and Irish Botanists." The matter originally appeared in the *Journal of Botany* from 1888 until 1891, but in 203 pages of the reprint a large amount of additional material is

given. This is shown by the fact that 1,825 names are given in the volume, against 1,619 given in the *Journal of Botany*. In a succinct form and by means of a series of readily understood abbreviations there are given the dates of birth and of death, place of birth and death, place of burial, indication of social position or occupation, university degrees or titles or offices held, and dates of election to the Linnæan and Royal societies. Mention is also made of the whereabouts of any correspondence or MSS. and the existence of any herbarium or plants collected. Various biographical dictionaries, where further information may be obtained, are also referred to. Any portrait, original or engraved, and any genus, or, failing this, any species, dedicated to the person, is mentioned. From this it will be seen that a large amount of information is gathered within a small compass, and the volume will be of great assistance in looking up facts relative to any one of the 1,825 names included within its pages.

JOSEPH F. JAMES.

Washington, D. C., July 22.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

HANN & ADAIR, Columbus, O., announce "A History of the German Language from the Earliest Times to the Present Day," by Chas. W. Super, president of the Ohio University at Athens. The purpose of the author has been to write a book that may be read with interest and profit by persons whose knowledge of German does not extend beyond the rudiments. It has been his aim to make duly prominent the common origin of the English and German languages and to use many facts of the former to elucidate those of the latter, so far as it can be done within the space at command. The book also discusses incidentally some phenomena common to all civilized tongues. By the same author is "Weil's Order of Words in the Ancient Languages Compared with that of the Modern Languages," published by Ginn & Co., Boston, Mass.

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For sale or exchange for copper coins or rare postage stamps. Tryon's American Marine Conchology, containing hand colored figures of all the shells of the Atlantic coast of the United States. Presentation copy, autograph, etc. One vol., half morocco, 8vo, usual price, \$25, postpaid, \$15. Botany of the Fortieth Parallel of the Hundredth Meridian of the Pacific R. R. Survey. Other Botanical works and works on Ethnology. F. A. Hassler, M.D., Santa Ana, Cal.

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Wants.

WANTED.—Panorpidæ, Myrmeleoninae, and literature on the same. Chas. C. Adams, Bloomington, Ill.

WANTED.—Assistant in Nautical Almanac office, Navy Department. The Civil Service Commission will hold an examination on August 15 to fill a vacancy in the position of assistant (computer) in the Nautical Almanac office. The subjects will be letter-writing, penmanship, trigonometry, rudiments of analytical geometry and calculus, logarithms, theory and practice of computations, and astronomy. Each applicant must provide himself with a five-place logarithmic table. The examination will be held in Washington, and if applications are filed in season, arrangements may be made for examinations in the large cities. Blanks will be furnished upon application to the Commission at Washington.

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First inserted June 19, 1891. No response to date.

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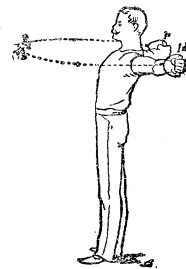
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