

stick, forming loops less than an inch in diameter by bringing the projecting ends of the rawhide and seizing it fast to the shaft. Just below these finger loops or stirrups were a long chalcedony knife or arrow blade, the tooth of a lion and a concretion of hematite seized by a plentiful wrapping of yucca cord. If the readers of *Science* will recall the Bourke example from Lake Patzcuaro, with its long, barbed spear with shaft of cane, he may follow me further and believe that a bit of cane and a spear head of chalcedony attached to a tang or foreshaft of wood lying in the same case, and pointed out to me by Mr. C. C. Willoughby, belonged to the same outfit. This is the first instance of finding the ancient atlatl, figured in the codices and described by Mrs Nuttall. It also connects the Cliff dwellers with the Mexican peoples.

Sept. 3, 1893.

O. T. MASON.

#### WATER ANALYSES.

FEAR of cholera has caused waters to pour in floods into some of the analytical laboratories of Europe, and it is more interesting than reassuring to observe the methods followed in dealing with this accumulated work.

In the laboratory of one public analyst, the writer saw a large collection of water samples, as yet unopened, from various localities.

These samples, some of which were weeks old, had been collected in a variety of vessels, principally claret and whiskey bottles, and the corks employed were often old ones.

When one considers the excessive care required for

water sampling, the thought that the above lot were doubtless taken by inexperienced hands, with the aid of vessels certainly old and probably unclean, does not increase one's faith in the value of the analytical results.

Much to my surprise, I also saw in one laboratory the old writing-paper packing for connecting the retort with the condenser, a method of union long since discarded for something more reliable. It is so easy a matter to ruin a water analysis by indifferent attention to the proper setting up of the apparatus for the "albuminoid ammonia" process that modern practice discards, as inefficient, several recommendations made by Wanklyn, the originator of the method, and among them the paper packing mentioned.

In short, without wishing to be over-patriotic, my observations here lead me to the belief that Americans do not have to go abroad in order to gather information as to the most suitable methods for making an examination of potable water.

WILLIAM P. MASON.

Stuttgart, Germany, Aug. 9.

THE New York Shakespeare Society has begun to reprint, in its Bankside edition, the archaic texts of the seventeen plays first printed in the Heminges and Condell Folio of 1623. The first of these plays, *The Tempest*, will leave the press in a few days. Of these new volumes but 500 copies are printed, as before, hand numbered to correspond with the 500 sets of the prior twenty volumes, with which they are of course uniform in style, size, price, etc.

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For sale or exchange for works on entomotraca. Wollé's "Desmids of the U.S.," Hentz "Spiders of the U.S.," The Amer. Entomologist & Botanist, Vol. 2, The Amer. Entomologist, Vol. 1, Harris's "Insects Injurious to Vegetation," colored plates copy formerly owned by Townend Glover. C. Dwight Marsh, Ripon, Wis.

"The Conchologist: a Journal of Malacology." Vols. 1 and 2, with wood cuts and plates, value 12 | will exchange for any works or pamphlets on American Slugs or Anatomy of American Fishes. W. E. Collinge, Mason College, Birmingham, England.

I wish to exchange a New Model Hall Typewriter, price \$30, for a Daylight Kodak, 4x5 preferred. George A. Coleman, Dep't. Agric., Div. of Ornithology, Washington, D. C.

Exchange—The undersigned is desirous of obtaining correspondents interested in macro-lipidoptera, in Alaska, the far Western, Southwestern and Southern States. Will also exchange rare lepidoptera for entomological literature. Levi W. Mengel, Reading, Penn.

Wanted to exchange—Medical books, Obstetrical Transactions, London, Works of Sir J. Y. Simpson, Beck's Medical Jurisprudence. Handbook for the Physiological Laboratory, by Burnton, Foster, Klein and Sanderson, Quain's Anatomy, and about fifty others. Catalogues given. Want Geological, Botanical and Microscopical books in exchange. Dr. A. M. Edwards, 11 Washington St., Newark, N. J.

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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.