

tries, but the United States by their policy make it impossible to receive or to send them. The scientific societies should exert their influence at home, and endeavor to have the United States Congress adopt the more advanced and liberal postal arrangements of the countries which your correspondents blame for their troubles.

W. HAGUE HARRINGTON.

Ottawa, Canada, Dec. 14, 1893.

A DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC TERMS.

IN answer to the query of B. S. Bowdish regarding a pronouncing dictionary of scientific names I would mention "A Manual of Scientific Terms," by Stormouth. Edinburgh, James Thin; London, Simpkin Marshall & Co. 1892. This is a small handy book of xi+488 pp., giving the pronunciation, derivation and definition of the terms used in botany, natural history, anatomy, medicine, etc., and contains an excellent appendix giving alphabetical lists of specific names, prefixes and postfixes with their definitions. I would consider it just the book for the purpose mentioned in the query.

WALTER C. KERR.

New Brighton, Staten Island, Dec. 12, 1893.

NOTES AND NEWS.

FIRE destroyed the contents of the stock room of the Salisbury Laboratory, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass., on the morning of Dec. 2. The new stock for the work of the current year had just been received, and much of it had been imported from Germany with no little pains by Dr. L. P. Kinnicutt and his assistants. The loss on the stock and apparatus amounts to \$3,000, and the building was damaged to the extent of \$1,500. There was ample insurance. Had it not been for the substantial character of the building, which is of brick, with brick partitions and wire-lath ceilings, the firemen would have been unable

to save the structure. The stock room was in the fourth story. The Freshman laboratory adjoining was injured by smoke, and the chemical library below the stock room was damaged somewhat by water. It is believed that the fire was caused by an overheated chimney.

—The Board of Education of the city of Saginaw, Mich., has provided for a museum in connection with its East Side High School. This is now well under way and is to include departments of archæology, ethnology, ostiology, physiology, botany, zoölogy, chemistry, geology, history and economic industries. Part of the museum is to build up itself naturally by small accessions. Specimens will be transferred to this section only as they are illustrative of the branches in which instruction is given. In this way it is hoped the section may be developed, by the students themselves, into a typical High School museum entirely independent of the remaining specimens, which will be arranged more as a public museum, with attention to original research in the lines being investigated by citizens. An endeavor will be made that this museum shall *not* become a mere place for the storing of curiosities, but may be built up each step with a purpose into a teaching institution.

—The Iowa Academy of Sciences will meet in Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 26 and 27, 1893. This Academy includes the active scientific workers of the state and a very interesting programme is prepared, including papers on the geology and natural history of the state, as well as papers in chemistry, physics and engineering. The meetings will be held in the Y. M. C. A. building, and all who are interested in the objects of the Academy are cordially invited to attend the sessions and take part in the discussions. The programmes may be obtained prior to the meeting by addressing the Secretary, Herbert Osborn, Ames, Iowa.

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EXCHANGES.

[Free of charge to all, if of satisfactory character. Address N. D. C. Hodges, 874 Broadway, New York.]

Museum of Hamline University desires to exchange Marine Shells, preserved alcoholic material of marine zoology, or microscopic slides for zoological specimens from southern and western United States, especially for rodents in the flesh. Correspondence solicited. Address: Herbert L. Osborn, Biological Laboratory of Hamline University, St. Paul, Minn.

For Sale.—Small collection of fine first-class sets of birds' eggs; single breech-loading shotgun, gold-filled hunting-case watch and telescope. Write for list of eggs and particulars. B. S. Bowdish, Phelps, N. Y.

I am desirous of obtaining the following back numbers of *The Auk*: One copy each of Oct., 1885; July, 1886; January, 1887; July, 1887; April and July, 1891 and two copies each of the following: January, 1886; Oct., 1886; Oct., 1887; July, 1888; January, 1889; January, 1890. My own contributions in them only are required; otherwise the copies need not be perfect. I have in exchange for them two vols. (zoology) *Mex. Birds* by J. J. J. (col. plates) or complete set of *Life and Habits of Arctic Water-Birds*, etc. (col. plates, 24 lith. plates) or other rare scientific reprints of any subject required. Address Dr. Shufeldt, Takoma, D. C.

For Sale.—The first eleven volumes of Crooke's Quarterly Journal of Science, 7 vols. 1st series, 1st vols. and series, beautifully bound, half leather, as good as new, for \$30. John J. Jarmey, 93 Indiana Place, Columbus, Ohio.

For Sale.—A very fine telescope, length extended, twenty-five inches, closed, seven inches. Power twenty-five times. Good as new. Cost \$25.00. Will sell for the best cash offer. B. S. Bowdish, Box 165, Phelps, N. Y.

Wants.

WANTED to exchange for human bones or recent medical text-books, the following books: "Metallurgy of Silver," M. Eissler, 1889; "Practical Treatise on Petroleum," by Benj. J. Crewe, 1887; "Cook's Chemical Philosophy," 1884; "Cairn's Chemical Analysis," 1884; "Ward's Chemical Technology," by Crookes, 1886; "Fresenius's Qual. Chem. Analysis," 1879; "Elementary Treatise on Practical Chemistry and Qual. Analysis," Clowes, 1881; bound Vols. 1 to 12 of Dr. Lardner's "Museum of Science and Art" (very rare, 1854; back numbers of "Electrical World," beautiful specimens of Pyrite Incrustations from Cretaceous of New Jersey; Magnetite Iron Ore, Highly Polarized. Address D. T. Martin, W. 10th St., N. J.

WANTED.—Books or information on the microscopical determination of blood and hair. Also reports of cases where hair has played an important part in the identification of an individual. Address Maurice Reiker, 206 N. First Ave., Marshalltown, Iowa.

A GEOLOGIST thoroughly conversant with the geology of the Southern States desires an engagement. Has complete knowledge of the economic geology of Iron, Coal, Lignite, as well as Clay and Kaolin. Five years' experience with Geological Surveys. Address K., 509 West Sixth Street, Austin, Texas.

WANTED.—Tuckerman's Geneva Lichenum and Carpenter on the Microscope, Wiley's Introduction to the Study of Lichens. State price and other particulars. Richard Lees, Brampton, Ont.

WANTED.—Icones Muscorum by W. D. Sullivan, with or without Supplement, but both preferred. Address, stating price and condition of books, Dr. G. N. Best, Rosemont, N. J.

SOME OF THE NEW BOOKS AT LOW PRICES.

FAMOUS VOYAGERS AND EXPLORERS.—\$1.50.

MRS. BOLTON has added to her *Famous* series of books another and an unusually interesting volume, "Famous Voyagers and Explorers." It is hardly comprehensive, as it gives the biographies of only a few typical explorers—Marco Polo, Columbus, Magellan, Raleigh, and the more prominent of our modern American explorers. Doubtless such names as the Cabots, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, De Soto, Cartier, Nansen and others are reserved for a second volume. Mrs. Bolton has a gift for this sort of writing, and she has here brought together a large amount of deeply interesting matter which otherwise could only be obtained by reading through a dozen or more separate volumes. The book is illustrated with several portraits.—*Boston Transcript*.

OUR GREAT WEST.—\$2.50.

THE contents of the volume appeared serially in *Harper's Magazine* and *Harper's Weekly*, in which periodicals they attracted wide attention and favorable comment. Their importance fully justified their republication in a more permanent form. The book affords a more minute insight into the present condition of the West than can be found elsewhere. What it tells is the result of personal experience, fortified by information obtained from the best-informed and most reliable men in the localities under discussion, and set forth with admirable clearness and impartiality. It is a work to be read and pondered by those interested in the growth of the nation westward, and is of permanent standard value.—*Boston Gazette*.

STATESMEN.—\$2.00.

IN the preparation of this work Noah Brooks has aimed to present a series of character sketches of the eminent persons selected for portraiture. The object is to place before the present generation of Americans salient points in the careers of public men whose attainments in statesmanship were the result of their own individual exertions and force of character rather than of fortunate circumstances. Therefore these brief studies are not biographies. Mr. Brooks had the good fortune of personal acquaintance with most of the statesmen of the latter part of the period illustrated by his pen, and he considers it an advantage to his readers that they may thus receive from him some of the impressions which these conspicuous personages made upon the mental vision of those who heard and saw them while they were living examples of nobility of aim and success of achievement in American statesmanship.

MEN OF BUSINESS.—\$2.00.

W. O. STODDARD, who has just written a book published by the Scribners, on "Men of Business," tells

how the late Senator Stanford chopped his way to the law. "He had grown tall and strong," says Mr. Stoddard, "and was a capital hand in a hay-field, behind a plough, or with an axe in the timber; but how could this help him into his chosen profession? Nevertheless it was a feat of wood-chopping which raised him to the bar. When he was eighteen years of age his father purchased a tract of woodland; wished to clear it, but had not the means to do so. At the same time he was anxious to give his son a lift. He told Leand, therefore, that he could have all he could make from the timber, if he would leave the land clear of trees. Leand took the offer, for a new market had latterly been created for cord-wood. He had saved money enough to hire other choppers to help him, and he chopped for the law and his future career. Over 2,000 cords of wood were cut and sold to the Mohawk and Hudson River Railroad, and the net profit to the young contractor was \$2,600. It had been earned by severe toil, in cold and heat, and it stood for something more than dollars.—*Brooklyn Times*.

ORTHOMETRY.—\$2.00.

IN "Orthometry" Mr. R. F. Brewer has attempted a fuller treatment of the art of versification than is to be found in the popular treatises on that subject. While the preface shows a tendency to encourage verse-making, as unnecessary as it is undesirable, the work may be regarded as useful so far as it tends to cultivate an intelligent taste for good poetry. The rhyming dictionary at the end is a new feature, which will undoubtedly commend itself to those having a use for such aids. A specially interesting chapter is that on "Poetic Trifles," in which are included the various imitations of foreign verse in English. The discussion of the sonnet, too, though failing to bring out fully the spiritual nature of this difficult verse form, is more accurate than might be expected from the following sentence: "The form of the sonnet is of Italian origin, and came into use in the fifteenth [*sic*] century, towards the end of which its construction was perfected, and its utmost melodious sweetness attained in the verse of Petrarch and Dante." In the chapter on Alliteration there are several misleading statements, such as calling "Piers the Plowman" an "Old English" poem. In the bibliography one is surprised not to find Mr. F. B. Gummere's admirable "Handbook of Poetics," now in its third edition. In spite of these and other shortcomings, which can be readily corrected in a later issue, this work may be recommended as a satisfactory treatment of the mechanics of verse. A careful reading will improve the critical faculties.—*The Dial*.

Any of the above books will be sent prepaid on receipt of the publisher's price, less ten per cent. The same discount will be allowed on any new book, not a text-book.

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