

The Fauna of the Deep Sea. By SIDNEY J. HICKSON, M.A. New York, D. Appleton & Co. Modern Science Series.

THIS volume of the Modern Science Series is one of the attempts at popularizing a subject which is of exceptional interest to scientific readers. The publication of the various deep sea exploring expeditions are too detailed and too technical for the comprehension of the ordinary reader. In this little book of 170 pages Mr. Hickson has attempted to collect all of the essential and interesting results of the study of the fauna of the bottom of the ocean. He gives us a short history of the investigations and describes the conditions of life at the bottom of the sea. The laws of distribution of fauna in different zones of the depths are explained, and then follows an outline of the discoveries in regard to each group of animals as they exist at the bottom of our deep seas. As a popular account of an interesting scientific subject this little volume is successful, and will enable a general reader to answer the most commonly asked questions as to the conditions of life at the bottom of the sea. It is illustrated with twenty-three figures.

Physiological Practicums. By Prof. B. G. WILDER. Press of the Ithaca Journal.

UNDER this title Professor Wilder has published as a series of separate slips the directions for laboratory work which he furnishes his students in Cornell as guides in the study of mammalian anatomy. Accompanying the laboratory directions are a series of twenty-nine figures on separate slips of paper. From these notes one can gain an adequate knowledge of the method of laboratory work pursued in Cornell, and an instructor who has similar work to do will find the notes of practical value.

Exactly why Professor Wilder calls them physiological practicums does not appear, for there is no physiology involved in the work. The practicums cover nothing but general anatomy of certain of the organs of mammals, and any teacher who obtains them with the hope of getting assistance in practical physiology will be disappointed. The practicums, of course, bristle with Professor Wilder's peculiar terminology, a matter not to be deplored perhaps except in the case of the brain. It does seem to be superfluous to introduce here an entirely new set of terms which will be of no value to the student outside of the special text books published by Professor Wilder.

Darwiniana Essays. By Prof. H. HUXLEY. New York, D. Appleton & Co.

ASIDE from Mr. Darwin himself there is certainly no writer who has contributed so much to the general extension and acceptance of the evolutionary doctrine as Professor Huxley. From the first appearance of the origin of the species Professor Huxley has been its champion, and from time to time his clear brain and lucid pen have given to the public essays upon one and another phase of the general studies inaugurated by Darwin. These essays have appeared at intervals from 1859 until 1888, the last one constituting an obituary on Mr. Darwin. The essays scattered in various publications have been finally collected in one little volume, and to them have been added a series of six lectures upon the general subject of the causes and phenomena of organic matter delivered to working men in 1863. Taken together the essays comprise Mr. Huxley's valuable contributions to the general subject of evolution, and one can clearly discern in reading them one after the other the strong influence their author has had upon this growing conception of science. There

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