DR. F. N. SCHMITZ, Professor of Botany in the University of Greifswald, died on January 28, at the age of 44.

THE University of Wisconsin has begun the publication of series of bulletins in Philology and Literature, in Science, in Engineering, and in Economics, Political Science and History. The numbers so far issued are: *On the Speed of the Liberation of Iodine in Mixed Solutions of Potassium Chlorate, Potassium Iodide and Hydrochloric Acid*, by Herman Schmidt. *Track*, by L. F. Loree. *Some Practical Hints in Dynamo Design*, by Gilbert Wilkes. *The Steel Construction of Buildings*, by C. T. Purdy. *The Evolution of a Switchboard*, by Arthur Vaughan Abbott. *The Geographical Distribution of the Vote of the Thirteen States on the Federal Constitution, 1787–8*, by Orin Grant Libby.

THE J. B. LIPPINCOTT Co. announce *Suggestions to Hospital and Asylum Visitors*, by Dr. John S. Billings and Dr. Henry M. Hurd, and *A Text-book of Chemistry*, intended for the use of pharmaceutical and medical students, by Professors Samuel P. Sadtler and Henry Trimble, of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

GINN & Co. announce *The Religions of India*, by Edward Washburn Hopkins.

D. APPLETON & Co. announce *The Story of the Stars*, by G. F. Chambers, as the first volume in a new series of 'Useful Stories.' This series includes *The Story of the Earth*, by H. G. Seeley; *The Story of the Primitive Man*, by Edward Clodd; *The Story of the Solar System*, by G. F. Chambers. The same publishers announce a translation of Max Nordau's *Entartung*.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

THE Section of Geology and Mineralogy, on February 18, listened to papers of which the following are abstracts: Heinrich Ries described the geology and petrography of the 'Harrison Granite' of Westchester county, N. Y. This forms an elongated belt, principally in the town of Harrison, on Long Island Sound, and is in the midst of the mica schists, which Dr. F. J. H. Merrill regards and has recently mapped as metamorphosed representatives of the Hudson River stage. The granite contains both hornblende and biotite and is really a granite-diorite. It is all more or less gneissic, and shades from a coarsely laminated variety with many 'Augen' of feldspar, in the central portion, to decidedly schistose varieties at the border. Evidences of crushing and many curious inclusions in the feldspar are abundant.

In discussion, J. F. Kemp cited the many intrusive bosses of granite all along the north shore of the Sound from Stony Creek, Conn., to Niantic, R. I. The results of observations as yet unpublished, on those in Rhode Island, were given and a few notes on their mineralogy.

G. F. Kunz followed with a paper on the 'Minerals used for the Assyrian, Babylonian and Sassanian Cylinders, Seals, etc.,' which was illustrated by many specimens and lantern slides. An abstract of the paper, which will be printed in full in the Transactions of the Academy, is as follows:

The seals that date from 4000 B. C. to 2500 B. C. are cylinders, a form that is thought to have been suggested by the joint of a reed. Nearly all depict animals without other ornamentation. They were made of black or green serpentine, conglomerate, diorite, and often of the central whorls of the large conchs from the Persian Gulf. From 2500 to 600 B. C. the cylindrical shape continues, but, in addition to the animals, from one to six rows of cuneiform characters appear. Variously colored chalcedony, (especially a blue variety), brick red ferruginous quartz and red hematite are also used. Up to this time the carving was

done with a sapphire point, but in the fifth century wheel-work begins to appear. In the sixth century B. C. cylinders begin to be partially replaced by cone-shaped seals, and by the scaraboid forms introduced from Egypt. From the third century B. C. to the third century A. D. the seals become lower and flatter, and finally graduate into rings, mostly with Persian or Sassanian characters. Although in part made from the stones of the neighboring hills, yet rarer materials begin to appear—evidently obtained by trade with Egypt and other countries more or less remote.

In addition to the minerals mentioned above, the following are recognized: clear, pellucid quartz, amethyst, agates of various colors, lapis-lazuli from Bodakshan in Turkestan, amazon-stone, possibly of Egyptian origin, calcite, green and white and in the form of various marbles, aragonite, gypsum, syenite and jade.

It is hoped that further study may enable us to trace these minerals to their original localities with greater certainty.

J. F. Kemp, *Recording Secretary.*

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS.

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, MARCH.

The Synthetic Food of the Future: Harvey W. Wiley.

The Determination of Phosphoric Acid: H. Pemberton, Jr.

On the Estimation of Sulphur in Pyrites: G. Lunge.

Improvement in the Manufacture of Acetone: E. R. Squibb.

Report of Committee on Atomic Weights, Published During 1894: F. W. Clark.

Coloring Matter in the California Red Wines: W. D. Bigelow.

The Penetration Machine—An Explanation: H. C. Bowen.

Notes: Argon.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PSYCHOLOGY, JAN.

Comparative Observations on the Indirect Color Range of Children, Adults, and Adults Trained in Color: Geo. W. A. Luckey.

Minor Studies from the Psychological Laboratory of Cornell University: Taste Dreams: E. B. Titchener. *On the Quantitative Determination of an Optical Illusion:* R. Watanabe, Ph. D. *The Cutaneous Estimation of Open and Filled Space:* C. S. Parrish.

The Daily Life of a Protozoan; A Study in Comparative Psycho-physiology: C. F. Hodge, Ph. D., and H. Austin Aikins, Ph. D.

Minor Studies from the Psychological Laboratory of Clark University: A Study of Individual Psychology: Caroline Miles. *The Memory After-Image and Attention:* Arthur H. Daniels, Ph. D. *On the Least Observable Interval between Stimuli addressed to Disparate Senses and to Different Organs of the Same Sense:* Alice J. Hamlin. *Notes on New Apparatus:* Edmund C. Sanford.

On the Words for 'Anger' in Certain Languages; A Study in Linguistic Psychology: A. F. Chamberlain, Ph. D.

A Laboratory Course in Physiological Psychology; The Visual Perception of Space: Edmund C. Sanford.

Proceedings of the Third Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association at Princeton.

Psychological Literature.

NEW BOOKS.

History of Chemistry. F. P. Venable. Boston, D. C. Heath & Co. 1894. Pp. viii + 157.

Mental Development of the Child and the Race. Methods and Processes. James Mark Baldwin. New York and London, Macmillan & Co. 1895. Pp. xvi+496. $2.60.

Qualitative Chemical Analysis of Inorganic Substances as Practiced in Georgetown College, D. C. New York, Cincinnati, Chicago, American Book Company. 1894. Pp. 61.