

mation as defined by the United States Geological Survey was referred as far back as 1888, as Jurassic formation.

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SOME NEURAL AND DESCRIPTIVE TERMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In a recent circular asking the opinions of experts as to the prevailing and preferred usage of anatomic and neurologic terms in behalf of the projected Dictionary of Philosophy and Psychology, Dr. C. L. Herrick mentions certain terms and principles which have been either proposed or adopted by me.

But for the request to 'respond as early as possible,' I should suggest that replies be either delayed or regarded as provisional until after the appearance of my paper, 'Neural Terms, International and National,' *Journal of Comparative Neurology*, VI., pp. 216-340, December, 1896), wherein the general subject is discussed at length, and in parallel columns are given the neuronyms adopted by the Anatomische Gesellschaft in 1895 and those now preferred by me. But for the remoteness of Dr. Herrick's present address the following comments would be submitted to him first.

3 (b). For the part now called by the Gesellschaft 'Substantia perforata lateralis' I formerly proposed *præperforata*, but since 1889 have employed *præcribrum*.

4 (e). *Metencephalon*, as employed in the last three editions of 'Quain' and adopted by me in 1881, designates the last definitive encephalic segment, *i. e.*, between the cerebellar segment (our eencephalon) and the myelon or spinal cord. As given in the circular it has two other usages, *viz.*, either for the cerebellar segment alone (His) or for both regions (some authors). The encephalic segments will form the subject of a paper at the coming meeting of the Association of American Anatomists.

(g). *Metenceole* is doubtless a misprint for *metacoele*. The Latin (international) forms are *metacoelia* and *mesocoelia*; the national English forms *metacele* and *mesoccele*.

(j). As to *Neuron* (proposed by me in 1884 as a mononym for *axis cerebro-spinalis*) see 'Reference Handbook, IX., 100, and *Proceedings As-*

soc. Amer. Anat., 1895, 44-45. Indirect endorsement of it is contained in such compounds as *neuromere*, *neurolenteric*, etc. It like manner *myelencephalon* (for either the entire cerebro-spinal axis or for the last encephalic segment) embodies indirect endorsement of *myelon* for *medulla spinalis*.

As to *cephalic* and *caudal*, *cephalad* and *caudad*, during an experience of sixteen years no actual instance of misapprehension has been observed. But since they evidently are not acceptable to some, might not the increasing employment of *præ* and *post* in composition with the force of adjectives, justify taking these prepositions as the bases of adjectives, *viz.* *præalis*, *postalis*, *England*, *præal* and *postal*; adverbs, *præad* and *postad*. As mere vocables the last two are no more objectionable than *quoad*. Classic precedents for the derivation of adjectives from prepositions or adverbs are *contrarius*, *extraneus*, *proprius*, *crastinus*, *pristinus*, *interior*, *superius*, and *ἀνώτερος*. BURT G. WILDER.

ITHACA, N. Y., December 19, 1896.

SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

CARL VOGT.

La Vie d'un Homme, Carl Vogt. Par William Vogt. Avec deux portraits par Otto Vautier. Paris, Librairie C. Reinwald; Stuttgart, E. Nägele. 1896. 4°. Pp. 265.

The life of this well-known naturalist was stormy and eventful, in a degree momentous to science, and also to the political and philosophical history of his time. His son has given us a vivid portrait of an interesting character—a very positive one—who, besides leaving his imprint on the science of his day, was in some respects a many-sided man, not only being an eminent investigator, a teacher, a founder of scientific societies, a popular lecturer, a brilliant caustic writer and controversialist, but also a man of great public spirit, an active republican, almost a revolutionist, protesting and fighting during the middle of this century for right and justice against the ultra-conservative, reactionary forces in State and Church.

Carl Vogt was born in 1817 at Giessen. He was by extraction a Celt, rather than a German, and this may account for his turbulent, combative, revolutionary nature, while his pro-