

mates.* Professor Le Conte maintains not only that "the fovea is necessary to the concentration of the attention on the thing looked at," but also (p. 302) that "the existence" of the fovea is determined by "the habits of the animal, especially in looking attentively."

2. I regard it as either bad psychology or bad terminology to say: "We do, indeed, see all objects double except under certain conditions." We do not hear each of the overtones of a tone because most people can learn to distinguish them, nor do we know the motives of our actions because we believe that motives exist.

3. I am glad that Professor Le Conte here calls attention to the real psychological problems involved in localization in the field of vision and in the coordination of visual and motor perceptions. The section in his book which I criticised is, however, headed 'Erect Vision,' and he writes: "How, then, with inverted retinal images, do we see objects in their right position, *i. e.*, erect? This question has puzzled thinkers for many centuries," etc. The question seems to me analogous to that of the child who asks how people in China with their heads down can hang on by their toes. It may be a popular paradox, but I do not admit that it is a question deserving serious scientific discussion.

J. McKEEN CATTELL.

A SIMPLE METHOD OF COMBINING THE COLORS.

THE following very simple method of illustrating the recombination of the spectral colors into white light has some obvious advantages in the way of ease of apprehension on the part of the beginning student. It also possesses an additional and not inconsiderable advantage in that it is striking.

A rectangular refraction tank with glass ends is set up in front of the lantern, both being preferably upon a rotating stand. From a horizontal slit a beam is projected and the prism interposed in such a manner that there is sent down into the water the rays of the spectrum,

* For the most recent work on the subject of the thesis by Dr. Slonaker in the *Journal of Morphology* XIII., 3. Professor Le Conte himself in a later chapter refers to a more highly organized central area in the lower mammals.

their order from red to violet running lengthwise of the tank. A few drops of milk are mixed with the water, and with care a mixture may be obtained which in a side view shows the separated rays clearly, while at the same time if viewed from the end of the tank it looks quite white. On cutting off either the violet or red end of the spectrum the end view becomes colored.

If a strong beam is available it is better to turn it back toward the lantern by a reflector before sending it through the prism. This brings the violet rays which are least intense nearest the end, where they have to traverse a thinner stratum of the mixture.

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SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

Report of Explorations in the Labrador Peninsula along the East Main, Koksoak, Hamilton, Manicouagan and the Portions of Other Rivers in 1892-93-94-95. By A. P. Low, B. A. Sc. Annual Report of Progress, Geological Survey of Canada, Vol. VIII., pp. 385.

One of the most interesting and valuable reports which has been issued by the Geological Survey of Canada in recent years has just appeared on the peninsula of Labrador, by Mr. A. P. Low.

The report embodies the results of four years' exploration, during which time Mr. Low has traversed Labrador from north to south and from east to west, and it presents in readable form a summary of our knowledge, not only of the geography and geology, but also of the climatology, botany, zoology and natural resources of this remotest part of the Dominion, the interior of which, prior to Mr. Low's exploration, was practically unknown. Mr. Low's work, the results of portions of which have been previously published in preliminary reports to the Geological Survey, and in papers presented to various scientific societies, has attracted much attention and has recently been accorded an especial recognition by the Royal Geographical Society of England. The report is accompanied by a fine map of Labrador, in four sheets, on a scale of 25 miles to the inch, which is colored geologically along the lines