

troduction, amidst rumors of wars and warlike preparations *Baguios ó Ciclones Filipinos. Estudio Teórico-práctico*. This monograph of over 300 pages is the first complete publication upon the cyclones of the Philippines. It is of especial importance just at the present time, when the Philippines, long of peculiar interest to meteorologists, are becoming of interest to the general public of this country as well. The origin, structure, movement, paths, meteorological characteristics, and prognostics, are fully considered, and detailed accounts of certain special cyclones are given. Fifteen figures accompany the report, including a chart showing the average tracks of cyclones in the East, based on the international observations from 1878 to 1888, and on the Manila observations from 1865 to 1896.

PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF HIGH ALTITUDES.

A SHORT paper by Douglass on the *Effects of High Mountain Climbing* (Appalachia, Vol. VIII., No. 4, 1898) summarizes the more important symptoms of mountain sickness as noted by previous climbers, and adds a few notes from the author's own experiences. The author is of the opinion that in trips which require two days to reach the summit of the mountain, as, *e. g.*, the ascent of Popocatepetl and Orizaba, the night should be passed at an altitude where mountain sickness is not likely to prevent sleep, that is, at about 13,000 ft. The increased discomfort from mountain sickness during the night, and the fact that all the symptoms become exaggerated with increasing elevation above sea level, make it advisable to sleep at as low an altitude as possible.

FOG ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN.

ON the *Pilot Chart of the North Atlantic Ocean* for May, 1898, a new scheme for indicating the probable prevalence of fog is adopted for the first time. Instead of showing the regions of fog in one shade of color-

ing, as has been done hitherto, the present scheme gives a much more detailed forecast. Seven different styles of blue shading are now used, indicating seven degrees of probable duration of fog, in percentages. These percentages are as follows: 10%-20%, 20%-30%, 30%-40%, 40%-50%, 50%-60%, 60%-70%, and over 70%. That this more detailed forecast of fog duration will be very acceptable to mariners there can be no doubt.

CLOUD STUDY AND PHOTOGRAPHY.

AN attractive little book of eighty pages, entitled 'La Photographie et l'étude des nuages,' by Boyer, presents, in four chapters, an account of the classification of clouds according to the International System; of the application of photography to cloud study, and of the calculation of cloud heights and velocities from the photographs. There are several good illustrations of cloud forms, reproduced from the cloud sheet of our Hydrographic Office, from the 'International Cloud Atlas,' and from photographs taken at the Observatory at Trappes.

R. DEC. WARD.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

CURRENT NOTES ON ANTHROPOLOGY.

ETHNOGRAPHY OF WESTERN ASIA.

THE races of western Asia were the subject of an important communication by M. Chantre to the French Association for the Advancement of Science at its last meeting. His conclusions were based upon about 25,000 measurements, including those of 100 women of high cast taken by Madame Chantre. They were altogether derived from 16 different stocks. They differed widely, showing that the population is from very varied sources. In reference to the cephalic index, for example, we have, on the one hand, the Kurds with an average index of 72, and on the other the Baktiars,

whose index averages about 90. On the whole the broad-skulled type predominates, being, as compared to the long-skulled type, in the proportion of 8 to 3. The complete publication of these important results has not yet been made.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PERU.

THE 23d publication of the Field Columbian Museum is a 'Bibliography of the Anthropology of Peru,' by Dr. George A. Dorsey. It is a neat octavo of 206 pages and must contain nearly 3,000 titles. This is proof enough of its value to students, and we venture to hope that it will not be the last work of the kind by its author, though in his preface he says it will be.

How impossible it is, however, to reach completion in such a task! Confining myself to the works in my own library, I find that Dr. Dorsey does not mention the papers on Peruvian mummies by Schuch and Cornalia, nor that on Peruvian gems by Blondel, nor any by the distinguished collector, Dr. Contzen, nor the valuable archæological catalogue of Macedo, nor the essays on Peruvian mythology by Lafone, and, more painful to relate, he says nothing of my articles on the Puquina language, omitting also those of Grasserie on the same tongue. This merely shows that the greatest care sometimes fails.

THE LAMP OF THE ESKIMOS.

It has been noted that no form of lamp (with one doubtful exception) was known in ancient America south of the Eskimos. These possessed one from time immemorial. They could not, indeed, live without it. A study of it is presented in the *American Anthropologist* for April by Mr. Walter Hough. He considers it an independent invention. The rudest are merely stones collected on the beach with natural concavities in which the fats or oil can be poured and the wick laid at the side. Other stones were hollowed out to imitate

these. At St. Lawrence Island lamps of pottery are frequent. The size and form of the lamps curiously enough bear so distinct a relation to the isothermal lines that it is possible by comparison to assign the geographic position to any specimen.

D. G. BRINTON.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE ILLINOIS BOTANICAL STATION.

A SUMMER school of biology will be held at the Illinois Biological Station, Havana, Illinois, under the auspices of the University of Illinois, adapted to the purposes of university students; the instruction will also be carefully adjusted to the needs of teachers of biology wishing an opportunity for personal studies, in field and laboratory, of the plants and animals of a peculiarly rich and interesting situation and of the methods of modern biological station work. Four regular courses will be offered to organized classes, two in zoology and two in botany; and in addition to these opportunity will be given to students of experience to take independent work on special subjects, and to visiting investigators to pursue their personal researches at the station with the use of its equipment. The regular courses will be open to all who satisfy the management of their ability to do the work. The session will begin June 15th and continue four weeks, but members of classes may continue their work independently until August 1st. Visiting investigators may come at any time and remain until September 15th, and teachers may enter at any date preceding July 1st.

Visiting investigators will be given tables on the floating laboratory of the biological station. They will find in the locality a very rich fauna and flora in a greatly varied environment. Exceptional opportunities are offered for work on the lower algæ and the fleshy fungi. Over ninety species of Mycetozoa occur at Havana during the summer months. The abundance of Protozoa, Rotifera, Entomostraca, aquatic insects, planarians, oligochaete and parasitic worms, Mollusca—especially Unionidæ and