different species. Illustrative specimens were exhibited.

Attention was called to a collection of exquisite drawings of Australian flowering plants exhibited to the meeting by Mrs. F. C. Rowan. The Secretary thanked Mrs. Rowan on behalf of the Academy for the opportunity of examining the paintings, which are not only of high artistic value, but of great interest botanically on account of their accuracy of delineation and coloring. The artist has represented upwards of five hundred species, many of which were brought by her for the first time to the knowledge of the late Baron Ferdinand Von Müller, in whose collection specimens of all the plants represented were placed. The work was performed under unusually favorable circumstances by Mrs. Rowan, who cruised among the Australasian islands in a small steamer chartered for the purpose, the result being a collection of drawings of altogether extraordinary beauty and botanical interest as representing probably the most gorgeous flora in the world. Mrs. Rowan is now preparing similar illustrations of American plants. While the material at her disposal is not so striking, the results will, without doubt, be equally artistic.

Professor Henry Pilsbry spoke of the scientific work of the late Professors Jules Marcou and Fridolin Sandberger, correspondents of the Academy, whose deaths were announced at the meeting.

At the meeting on June 14th the Entomological Section having precedence, Dr. Henry Skinner made a communication on a collection of lepidoptera and other orders of insects, illustrating variations in size, peculiarities of coloring and habits, structure, sexual diversity, protective mimicry, etc. Other illustrations were shown by means of lantern and screen.

Mr. Philip P. Calvert spoke of mimicry and its relation to so-called natural selection. The two kinds of mimicry, known as Batesian and Muellerian, were defined.

Professor H. A. Pilsbry called attention to a collection of land shells from the arid region of central Australia. Their distribution resembles that of species from an island-dotted sea, the desert land being supplied with fugitive lakes in the surroundings of which the species are found. They are mostly ground species and their distribution is not affected appreciably by birds. They are probably survivors of a less arid time.

Professor Carter described a method of his own for the destruction of the round-headed apple-tree borer. He sprays the burrows with carbon bisulphide by means of a common atomizer and then covers the openings with soft clay. While the grubs are in every case destroyed, the trees are not affected.

Papers under the following titles were presented for publication:

'List of fishes collected at the Canary Islands by Mr. O. F. Cook, with descriptions of four new species,' by David Starr Jordan and James Alexander Gunn, Jr.

'*Hyalodendron navalium*, a new genus and species of Euplectillid sponge,' by J. Percy Moore.

The type of the genus and species described in the latter paper is one of a small collection of silicious sponges gathered in Japan in 1893, by Mr. Frederick Stearns, of Detroit, and sent to the Academy for determination. They were collected by native fishermen and brought into Yokohama harbor by the dredge boats. The single specimen of *Hyalodendron* is the only one which has been reported. The specimens are accompanied by a set of sketches by a native artist.

Edw. J. Nolan,
Secretary.

NEW BOOKS.

A Laboratory Guide in Qualitative Chemical Analysis. H. L. Wells. New York, John Wiley & Sons; London, Champman & Hall, Ltd. 1898. Pp. vii + 189.

A Short Course in Inorganic Qualitative Analysis for Engineering Students. J. S. C. Wells. New York, John Wiley & Sons; London, Chapman & Hall. 1898. Pp. vi + 293.

Technical Mycology. Franz Lafar. London, Chas. Griffin & Co.; Philadelphia, Pa., Lippincott. 1898. Vol. I. Pp. xviii + 405.

The Art of Taxidermy. John Rowley. New York, D. Appleton. 1898. Pp. xi + 244.