

that fish is a 'brain food' is combatted, but it is stated that 'most physiologists regard fish as a particularly desirable food for persons of sedentary habits.'

THE second and third volumes of Jordan and Evermann's 'Synopsis of the Fishes of North and Middle America' have appeared, but the volume of illustrations, it is understood, may be delayed for some months. When the last volume is published, a review may be expected in SCIENCE.

THE new 'Life of Michael Faraday,' by Professor Silvanus Thompson, which Messrs. Cassell & Co. will publish shortly, contains, says *Literature*, many points that have not appeared in any earlier biography. Several hitherto unpublished letters and a poem by Faraday himself are included, as well as a number of extracts from his laboratory note-books, from which also some sketches of apparatus are reproduced in facsimile. Fresh light is thrown upon Faraday's refusal, in 1836, of the pension offered him by Lord Melbourne.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS.

THE *American Naturalist* for December opens with an article by Mr. L. P. Gratacap of the American Museum of Natural History on the Relations of James Hall to American Geology and a portrait of Dr. Hall is given as a frontispiece. The work on the Wings of Insects by Professor Comstock and Dr. Needham is continued. Professor J. L. Howe contributes an interesting article on variation in the shell of *Helix Nemoralis* in the Lexington (Virginia) colony. Mr. H. H. Field describes the work of the *Concilium Bibliographicum*. He states that it has been conducted at a considerable loss, but that its future is now assured by the subsidy voted to it by the Swiss Confederation, the Canton and the town of Zurich. It is said that, while South America and Hawaii have ordered several complete sets of the cards, there is only one such set in New England. The last article of the number is by Mr. O. P. Hay on 'Protostega, the systematic position of Dermocheilus, and the morphogeny of the Chelonian Carapace and Plastron.' We regret to see that Dr. Robert P. Bigelow feels compelled to resign his position

as editor-in-chief of the *Naturalist*, as he is unable to devote to it the large amount of time required for its management.

THE *American Geologist*, for December, contains the following articles: 'On the Dikes in the Vicinity of Portland, Maine,' E. C. E. Lord; 'Thomsonite and Liptonite from the North Shore of Lake Superior,' N. H. Winchell; 'Primitive Man in the Somme Valley,' Warren Upham; 'The Great Terrace of the Columbia and other Topographic Features in the Neighborhood of Lake Chelan, Washington,' Israel C. Russell; 'The Occurrence of Cretaceous Fossils in the Eocene of Maryland,' Rufus Mather Bagge, Jr.

THE *Biologische Centralblatt* issued on October 27, 1898, contains a memorial notice of the late Professor Theodore Eimer by his former assistant, Gräfin Dr. Maria von Linden. It may be remembered that Dr. von Linden contributed to this JOURNAL (Vol. IV., p. 308) an account of Eimer's work in certain directions.

WE have received the first number of the *L'Intermédiaire des neurologistes et des aliénistes*, edited by the competent neurologist, M. Paul Sollier, and published by M. Felix Alcan, Paris. A most curious feature of the journal is the publication of its contents in French, German and English versions, a plan that would scarcely occur to a German or an Englishman. It is no wonder that under these conditions the editor asks that, considering the space required by 'the threefold texte,' correspondents are requested to write 'in the most possible short manner.' It would, we feel sure, be interesting to quote in full the editorial introduction, but we have only space for the concluding sentences: "The interest of informations taken and given, the pleasure of exposing personal opinions on subjects of high importance with the hope of being useful to others equally interested to them will, I hope, be sufficient movus to permit us to expect a collaboration which will find us very grateful. It will depend of them to whom we address that this organ, modest at its beginnings, should take, in the course of time, more and more importance and more extent, and we pray for some credit before any judgment."