

icised by Mr. Bather is very rare, if not entirely non-existent. In a tolerably active and rather long experience I have never known of an instance of the sort he mentions. Of course, there may be such, but in the lines I am familiar with I have never come across one.

Of far more practical importance to workers are the concealment by Societies of the true date of issue of their publications and the false dates of some well-known periodicals. Glaring instances of this unscientific procedure will occur to everybody. This is an evil which the committee would be generally supported in denouncing. Every issue of a periodical, or, better, every signature, should have the actual date of printing upon it. When this is delayed until a whole volume is printed the possessor of an extract is left in the lurch. The dating would cost nothing to the Societies and would often save the isolated worker hours of weary labor.

WM. H. DALL.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, December 21, 1898.

LEHMAN AND HANSEN 'ON THE TELEPATHIC PROBLEM.'

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Professor Titchener in to-day's SCIENCE assumes that Messrs. Lehman and Hansen have performed a work of definitive demolition in the well-meant article of theirs to which he refers. If he will take the pains to read Professor Sidgwick's criticism of their results in the S. P. R. *Proceedings*, Vol. XII., p. 298, as well as the note to my report of his paper in the *Psychological Review*, Vol. IV., p. 654, he will probably admit that, owing to the fewness of the data which they collected, they entirely failed to prove their point. This leaves the phenomena in dispute still hanging, and awaiting a positive interpretation from other hands.

I think that an exploded document ought not to be left with the last word, even for the sake of 'scientific psychology.' And I must incidentally thank Professor Titchener for his admission that 'aloofness, however authoritative' (which phrase seems to be *style noble* for 'ignorance of the subject, and be d — d to it'), is an attitude which need not be invariably maintained by the 'Scientific,' even towards matters

such as this. I only wish that his admission were a little less apologetic in form.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., WILLIAM JAMES.
December 23, 1898.

SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

Footnotes to Evolution. A series of popular addresses on the evolution of life. By DAVID STARR JORDAN, PH.D., President of Leland Stanford Junior University. With supplementary essays by EDWIN GRANT CONKLIN, PH.D.; FRANK MACE MCFARLAND, PH.D.; JAMES PERRIN SMITH. New York, D. Appleton & Co. 1898. Price, \$1.50.

Although the title of this book does not seem entirely self-explanatory or expressive, the lay reader will gain from a perusal of the volume a clear idea of what evolution means. He will also realize that what has been worked out in the world of animal life applies equally well in the main to man himself. Though man is an animal he is much more, and problems of existence arise in the social, moral and spiritual realms which are quite foreign to the subjects investigated by the zoologist only.

Dr. Jordan himself discusses, in a homely but clear and attractive and at times pithy and telling way, the 'kinship of life,' 'evolution: what it is and what it is not,' 'the elements of organic evolution,' 'the heredity of Richard Roe,' 'the distribution of species,' latitude and vertebræ; finally attacking such subjects as 'the evolution of the mind,' 'degeneration,' 'hereditary inefficiency,' 'the woman of evolution and the woman of pessimism,' 'the stability of truth' and 'the struggle for realities.'

While the facts of organic evolution, or, to use Geddes' term, bionomics, are discussed in an interesting way, we have given us few new facts or views, but current facts, opinions and inferences are presented in a readable form. We should naturally have expected, in the chapter on the distribution of species, to be treated to the discussion of data drawn from a study of the animals of California, for the relation of the local varieties or incipient species to their environment is very striking on the Pacific coast, and could be made very interesting and suggestive to readers not possessing a special knowledge of the matter. To be sure,