

Die Continuität der Atomverkettung. GEORG HÖRMANN. Jena, Gustav Fischer. 1899. Pp. 118. Mark 3.

Text-Book of Physics—Sound. J. H. POYNTING and J. J. THOMSON. London, Charles Griffings & Company; Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott & Co. Pp. x+163.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

THE *American Journal of Science* contains the following articles:

Glacial Lakes Newberry, Warren, and Dana, in Central New York, H. L. FAIRCHILD.

Rapid Method for the Determination of the Amount of Soluble Mineral Matter in a Soil, T. H. MEANS.

New Type of Telescope Objective especially adapted for Spectroscopic Use, C. S. HASTINGS.

Phenocrysts of Intrusive Igneous Rocks, L. V. PRUSSON.

Occurrence, Origin and Chemical Composition of Chromite, J. H. PRATT.

Influence of Hydrochloric Acid in Titrations by Sodium Thiosulphate, J. T. NORTON, Jr.

Rock-forming Biotites and Amphiboles, H. W. TURNER.

One Little Known and one Hitherto Unknown Species of Saurocephalus, O. P. HAY.

Some American Fossil Cycads, G. R. WIELAND.

THE *American Geologist* for April opens with an extended article by Professor William M. Davis on the peneplain, being a reply to an article by Professor Tarr in a previous issue of the journal. Professor Davis writes from Cannes, France. Following are articles: By Professor George E. Ladd, on the Cretaceous Clays of Middle Georgia; by Professor H. N. Winchell, on the optical characters of Jacksonite, and by Professor C. H. Hitchcock, giving an account of his observations in Australasia.

THE *Journal of the Boston Society of Medical Sciences* contains a paper by Dr. Franklin G. White on 'Blood Cultures in Septicemia, Pneumonia, Meningitis and Chronic Disease,' in which, among the conclusions reached, is that the detection of specific bacteria in the blood in cases of sepsis and pneumonia gives an unfavorable prognosis. A brief but interesting article by E. H. Bradford treats of the 'Movement of the Front of the Foot in Walking;' and Dr. John Dane follows with a 'Report of Some Studies upon the Arch of the Foot in Infancy,' showing that this arch is present in infants but is masked by a sustaining pad of fat.

THE frontispiece of the *Osprey* for February is a plate of the Hairy Woodpecker by Fuertes; the first article, 'Notes from North Dakota,' by E. S. Rolfe treats of egg collecting in the vicinity of Devil's Lake. Mr. Geo. F. Breninger has an article on 'Gambel's Quail;' and Rev. W. F. Henninger discusses 'The Scourge of Egg Collecting' in a manner perhaps a little over-zealous, but with an array of facts that merit serious consideration. The feature of the number is Dr. Gill's long letter headed 'A Great Work Proposed,' wherein he lays before the readers at some length a number of suggestions for a new history of North American birds. The publication of the *Osprey* for March brings this magazine down to date; Julia S. Robins contributes an article on Wilson entitled 'Behind the Wedding Veil,' and Witmer Stone follows with a too short paper on 'An Old Case of Skins and its Associations,' being notes on one of the earliest ornithological collections in the United States. In 'Snap Shots with Pen and Camera,' E. S. Rolfe gives us half a dozen views of birds and nests, with accompanying text. 'The Gourdheads in the Cypress Swamp of Missouri,' by Otto Widmann, tells of the habits of the Wood Ibis, gourdhead being a local name for this bird. W. B. Davis has some suggestive notes on 'Odd Actions of Birds Unexplained,' and the customary notes, editorials and reviews complete this unusually good number.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE regular meeting was held on February 9, 1899.

The first paper of the evening was read by Mr. F. D. Simons, and was entitled 'The Detection of Caramel Coloring Matter in Spirits and Vinegar,' by C. A. Crampton and F. D. Simons.

The paper states that the two principal tests given in the books for the detection of caramel coloring matter are, first, the reduction of Fehling's solution, and second, the precipitation of the caramel by means of paraldehyde. Neither of these tests has given satisfactory results in the hands of the authors.