would be interesting to have the term envelope, here presented in the usual way, so defined as to exclude all curves, such as the node locus, which are not properly tangent to curves of the family.

C. J. KEYSER.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

G. V. de Lapouge: l'Aryen: Son rôle social. Paris. 1899. 8vo. Pp. xx + 569.

The thesis of this work is that the tall, blond dolichocephalic race of the north of Europe has constituted the progressive and socially dominant element among the so-called Aryan peoples from prehistoric times to the present. In connection with the author's earlier work *les Selections sociales* (Paris, 1896), it is the best presentation of the results of the new school of anthropologists of which Lapouge and Otto Ammon are the leaders. If the results derived from the data now available are confirmed by wider investigation, they will obviously be of great significance for students of psychology, history and sociology, as well as anthropology. Further investigations ought now to be carried forward by individuals or institutions that have the means to prosecute them on an adequate scale.

CABLOS C. CLOSSON.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Mesures électriques. E. VIGNERON et P. LETHEULE. Paris, Gauthier-Villars. 1900. Pp. 179. 2 fr., 50c.

Produits aromatiques. G. F. JAUBERT. Paris, Gauthier-Villars. 1900. Pp. 169.

La constitution du monde. CLÉMENCE ROYER. Paris, Schleicher Frères. 1900. Pp. xxii + 796.

Logic. ST. GEORGE STOCK. Oxford, B. H. Blackwell. 1900. Pp. xi + 440.

A First Book in Organic Evolution. D. KERFOOT SHUTE. Chicago Open Court Publishing Co. 1899. Pp. xvi + 285.

The Amateurs' Practical Garden Book. C. E. MUNN and L. H. BAILEY. New York and London, The Macmillan Company. 1900. Pp. vi + 250. $1,00.

Physiology. BUEL B. COLTON. Boston, D. C. Heath & Co. 1900. Pp. xiii + 386. 90 cts.

Syllabus of Elementary Physiology. ULYSSES O. COX. Mankato, Minn., Free Press Printing Co. 1899. Pp. viii + 167.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

The Journal of Geology, Jan.–Feb., 1900. Vol. 8, No. 1. 'Suggestions Regarding the Classification of the Igneous Rocks,' by William H. Hobbs. The article sets forth the present condition of the nomenclature and classification and offers many valuable suggestions, which if followed will certainly assist in extricating the science of petrology from the burden of names and complication of systems under which its students are now laboring. The importance of chemical composition in determining the classification of rocks and the use of diagrams to show the relations is emphasized.

'Dentition of some Devonian Fishes,' by C. R. Eastman. The dental characters of some species of the genera *Dinichthys*, *Clododus* and *Dipterus*, with comparative notes and illustrations of some types are discussed.

'Ancient Alpine Glaciers of the Sierra Costa Mountains in California,' by Oscar H. Hershey. The author describes in detail the characters of several of the ancient glaciers of this mountain range, and concludes from their study that they were probably of late Wisconsin age, and that they existed under the same climatic conditions as at present, but at an elevation of about 3000 feet higher than now.

'An Attempt to Test the Nebular Hypothesis by the Relation of Masses and Momenta,' by T. C. Chamberlin. In a comparison of the moment of momentum of the nebular system with moment of momentum of the present system, on the basis of purely mechanical laws, susceptible of mathematical computation, making every concession in favor of the Laplacian hypothesis, the nebular moment of momentum is 213 times larger than the present moment of momentum of the system, where the dynamic law would require them to be equal. Besides this very great discrepancy which is hard to explain on the Laplacian hypothesis, there are individual discrepancies among the planets of even greater significance. These range from 141 to 1 for the Jovian nebula to 1208 to 1 for the terrestrial nebula, with very great irregularity in the distribution from Mercury to Neptune. In the relation of the ratios of planetary masses to their momenta, it appears that Jupiter carried away one tenth of one per cent. of the nebular