

ground is a combination of feelings or judgment, the inaccuracy of a judgment may vary, because of the combination of errors, as the square root of the amount. In so far as the ground is the mere mental shock of difference, the inaccuracy of the judgments may vary in some more direct relation to the amount.

CHARLES H. JUDD, *Secretary*.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE 321st meeting was held on Saturday, March 24th. Barton W. Evermann exhibited a series of proofs of the colored plates prepared to illustrate a forthcoming report on the fishes of Puerto Rico. Sylvester D. Judd described some 'Feeding Experiments with Captive Birds,' illustrating the difference between the methods of the Broad-winged Hawk and Shrike in killing and eating their prey. The habit of impaling its prey on thorns, employed by the Shrike, was considered to be due to the weakness of its legs which prevented the bird from holding and tearing its prey after the manner of the Hawk.

W. H. Osgood presented some 'Notes on a Trip Down the Yukon River' describing the character of the river in different portions of its course and the geological aspect of the banks. The various life regions through which it flowed were pointed out and their faunal and floral peculiarities were stated.

H. J. Webber discussed 'The Influence of Pollen on the Fruit of the Current Year,' describing two crucial experiments where the color and chemical constitution of corn had been changed as a result of the immediate influence of pollen or xenia. In one case sweet corn, which had been bred true to type for three generations, when crossed with yellow dent corn produced ears having smooth yellow dent kernels with starchy endosperm like the male parent. In the other case Hickory King, a white dent corn, with a large portion of corn-cous endosperm, grown from seed inbred the previous year and known to be pure, when crossed with Cuzco a plumbeous colored soft flour corn produced kernels of plumbeous color or with plumbeous colored spots and little corn-cous endosperm in these characters resembling the male parent.

F. A. Lucas spoke of 'The Tusks of the Mammoth' saying while the animal was usually represented with the tips of the tusks flaring outward there was good reason to believe that the tusks pointed inward at the tips as in the modern elephants. He illustrated his remarks with photographs of different specimens including one 12 feet 10 inches long, from Alaska believed to be the longest tusk on record.

F. A. LUCAS.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE 100th regular meeting was held at the Cosmos Club, March 28, 1900.

The program for the evening comprised a 'Symposium on Field Methods,' illustrated by notebooks, maps and instruments used in each class of work. The following contributions were presented:

M. R. Campbell and A. Keith—Appalachian Methods.

T. W. Vaughan—Great Plains Methods.

G. O. Smith—Lake Superior Methods.

J. D. Irving—Adirondack Methods.

J. E. Spurr—Reconnaissance Methods in the Great Basin.

A. H. Brooks—Reconnaissance Methods in Alaska.

W. Cross—Rocky Mountain Methods.

H. W. Turner—Sierra Nevada Methods.

F. L. RANSOME,

DAVID WHITE,

Secretaries.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

'NEW-DARWINISM.'

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In a review of my book 'Darwinism and Lamarckism' (G. P. Putnam's Sons) in SCIENCE for December 29, 1899, Mr. C. W. Hargitt objects, perhaps rightly, to my using the term 'New-Darwinism,' in a sense different from that in which it has been used by many biologists. I quite agree with him that I ought to have given my reasons for thus using the term and I shall feel obliged if you will allow me to give those reasons now.

About ten years ago Dr. A. R. Wallace published a book on the theory of Natural Selection, and about the same time Professor Weismann published an essay on heredity. Both advo-

cated natural selection as the sole cause of organic evolution and pronounced the inheritance of acquired characters to be impossible. Mr. Wallace called his book 'Darwinism.' In time these opinions were called the 'New Darwinism,' although some of them were quite at variance with those always held by Darwin up to his death.

A little later Dr. Romanes' book called 'After Darwinism' appeared, in which he amplified the views held by Darwin in a way to which, I think, Darwin himself would have agreed. This also has been called by some the 'New-Darwinism' with, as I think, a much better right to the title than those advocated in Wallace's book, which should have been called Wallaceism. I object to Mr. H. Spencer and others using the term New-Darwinism for Wallace's opinions; for, when it is shown that these are wrong, the unscientific public will naturally conclude that Darwin was also wrong, although he would himself have repudiated this New-Darwinism.

F. W. HUTTON.

CANTERBURY MUSEUM,
CHRIST CHURCH, NEW ZEALAND,
February, 21, 1900.

'THE ESKIMO OF SMITH SOUND.'

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The attention of the readers of SCIENCE is specially invited to a pamphlet of sixty pages, published by the American Museum of Natural History, entitled 'The Eskimo of Smith Sound,' by A. L. Kroeber. The Smith Sound Eskimo stand ethnologically between those of Greenland and the Central Eskimo and form a transition from the latter to the former. The theory of Holm that the Angmagsalingmiut (East Greenlanders) reached their present abode by following the ice-bound shores of Northern Greenland, is held to be untenable. Again, in examining Kroeber's illustrations, the opinion long ago published by this writer that no unsophisticated Eskimo ever etched on bone, ivory or antler is sustained. The small amount of engraving present is evidently the work of steel tools.

But, most interesting of all the accounts in the pamphlet is that concerning the loss and recovery of the kaiak. These Smith Sound

Eskimo were discovered by Sir John Ross, in 1818, and were afterwards visited by Franklin, Kane, Hayes, Hall and others. Now, none of the explorers saw kaiaks in the sound. The art of building them had apparently been forgotten, though the word 'kaiak' remained in the language. From the time of Ross abundance of material for the structure was at hand, the environment was there begging for kaiaks, but the culture-hero had to come and teach them their own lost art. Between 1868 and Peary's visit the Adlet (Ellesmere Land Eskimo) had furnished the culture-hero and now the fisherman recovers his skill. The arts of the Smith Sound Eskimo are clearly set forth and compared with the Central tribes of Boas, and the traditions given at length.

O. T. MASON.

A CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE:—Every scientific writer who has read with open mind the entreaties of recent writers on the subject has already adopted the plan of giving the year (as well as the volume) of any journal to which he has occasion to refer; few people wish to look up the reference (only those who are about to write on the subject), but every one who reads the article at all is interested in knowing the date of the contribution to the subject referred to—often, in fact, the reference wholly loses its point from a lack of this knowledge. Since, moreover, there are still many scientific writers who do not belong to the above described category, I wish to suggest that it would be a work of very great value if some one would issue a finding list, covering several hundreds of the principal scientific journals, which would enable the reader to pass at a glance from volume to year. Such a list would involve very little trouble on the part of whoever would be so good as to make it up, and it would certainly be a very great convenience. It might be printed on separate cards for separate subjects, and the scientific reader could have these cards (or as many of them as interested him) always at his elbow.

If both year and volume cannot be given when articles are referred to (for economy of space—there can be no other reason), it seems