their good nature than as having any great scientific value from the standpoint of our problem.

EDWIN G. DEXTER.

University of Illinois.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.

THE following have completed their membership in the American Association for the Advancement of Science during the month of July:

Frank Anderson, Mining Engineer, 255 East 2nd St., Salt Lake City, Utah.

William S. Andrews, Electrical Engineer, care of General Electric Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

Marshall H. Bailey, M.D., 47 Brattle St., Cambridge, Mass.

Professor Solon I. Bailey, Associate Professor of Astronomy, Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge, Mass.

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Philip P. Barton, Superintendent Niagara Falls Power Co., 127 Buffalo Ave., Niagara Falls, N. Y.

James P. Baxter, President Maine Historical Society, Portland, Me.

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Joseph E. Blackburn, State Dairy and Food Commissioner, Box 231, Columbus, O.

Miss Charlotte Bowditch, Pond St., Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Edward C. Briggs, Professor of Dental Materia Medica and Therapeutics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass.

Paul T. Brodie, Professor of Mathematics, Clemson College, S. C.

Rev. Earle A. Brooks, 161 Laidley St., Charleston, W. Va.

Joseph S. Brown, 241 South 5th St., Reading, Pa. Luther Burbank, Horticulturist, Santa Rosa, Cal. I. Tucker Burr, Jr., Banker, Readville, Mass.

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Friench Simpson, Jr., Medical Student, Columbus, Texas.

George P. Singer, Professor of Physics, Central State Normal School, Lock Haven, Pa.

Dr. Robert L. Slagle, President State School of Mines, Rapid City, S. D.

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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS.

RECENT BOOKS ON PHYSICS.

Natural Philosophy for General Readers and Young People. Translated from Ganot's 'Cours élémentaire de physique,' by E. Atkinson. Ninth edition, revised by A. W. REINHOLD. Longmans, Green & Co. 1900. Pp. 752.

Elements of Physics. By C. Hanford Hen-Derson and John F. Woodhull. D. Appleton & Co. 1900. Pp. 388.

A Brief Course in General Physics. By George A. Hoadley. American Book Company. 1900. Pp. 463.

One Thousand Problems in Physics. By WILLIAM H. SNYDER and IRVING O. PALMER. Ginn & Co. 1900. Pp. 142.

A Manual of Laboratory Physics. By H. M. TORY and F. H. PITCHER. John Wiley & Sons. 1901. Pp. 288.

Advanced Exercises in Practical Physics. By ARTHUR SCHUSTER and CHARLES H. LEES. England, Cambridge University Press; New York, The Macmillan Company. 1901. Pp.

It was in 1863 that Dr. Atkinson first put before English readers his excellent translation of Ganot's 'Éléments de Physique,' a book which quickly won favor by its good arrangement and lucidity. In the first edition he graciously apologized for the use of the metric system. It has passed through fifteen or more editions since its introduction. A demand soon arose for the more elementary course by the same French author, as a text-book for the middle and upper classes of schools preparatory to college. The popularity of this is manifested by the appearance now of its ninth edition, a considerable part of which had been prepared for the press before the death of Dr. Atkinson. The present volume has all the excellences of its predecessors, the illustrations being abundant, and some of them possibly a trifle too expensive. Colored lithographs of metallic spectra and of Geissler tube discharges were formerly fashionable, but in a general treatise to-day they seem almost out of date. For the general reader it would be hard to find a more pleasant and satisfactory book than this volume. For American school purposes, however, it is too diffuse; and it seems adapted only for recitational purposes where oral answers are given to questions relating to descriptive details and general principles. Physics is nothing if not a quantitative science. This idea is best instilled into the elementary student, even though his mathematical attainments be not sufficient to warrant the use of complex problems.

The present volume illustrates the difficulty of maintaining a text-book up to date by slight modifications and additions applied in succession to a long series of new editions. As years pass on, the necessity for omissions becomes as