

The general plan of the work includes a historical account of the discovery and study of the more important substances considered. While it lays no claim to that exhaustive completeness in detail which is characteristic of Beilstein's Handbook, it is much easier to secure from it a knowledge of the present views of the structure of particular compounds, and of the basis on which such views rest. Considerably more space is given to the alkaloids than is devoted to the same topic in Beilstein. The book covers the literature of its subject up to a very recent date and the information to be found in it is very reliable and satisfactory.

W. A. NOYES.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

THE first number of the first volume of the *American Journal of Anatomy* was published on November 7, its contents being as follows:

'The Development of the Limbs, Body-wall and Back': CHARLES RUSSELL BARDEEN and WARREN HARMON LEWIS.

'The Intralobular Framework of the Human Spleen': PRESTON KYES.

'Studies on the Neuroglia': G. CARL HUBER.

'The Normal Histology of the Human Hemolymph Glands': ALDRED SCOTT WARTHIN.

'On the Morphology of the Pineal Region, based upon its Development in *Acanthias*': CHARLES SEDGWICK MINOT.

THE editorial board, consisting of Lewellys F. Barker, University of Chicago; Thomas Dwight, Harvard University; Simon H. Gage, Cornell University; G. Carl Huber, University of Michigan; George S. Huntington, Columbia University; Franklin P. Mall, Johns Hopkins University; Charles S. Minot, Harvard University; George A. Piersol, University of Pennsylvania; and Henry McE. Knowler, Secretary, Johns Hopkins University, have sent with the first number the following prospectus: *The American Journal of Anatomy* has been founded to collect into one place, and present in a worthy manner, the many researches from our investigators, now scattered through many publications at home and abroad. Human anatomy in America needs as high a standard of reference as it has in other countries. Without such a standard it fails to make for itself any proper,

satisfactory or stimulating impression. The best interests of modern scientific medicine will be greatly advanced by the upholding of such a standard in this fundamental subject through a journal of high character. Many aspects of comparative anatomy, embryology, histology and cytology are so intimately bound up with the problems of human anatomy that these subjects will be included within the scope of the new journal. It will be the aim of *The American Journal of Anatomy* to recognize this close natural relationship between the various branches of the science, and to publish results of the best original work of American students of anatomy. The most cordial assurance of support has been given by the collaborators, and this we believe is sufficient indication of the results to be expected. A number of generous persons, whose names will appear later, have given some financial support to help us in gaining a foothold in a suitable manner. The journal must, however, look to those who are to be benefited by its publication for its real and permanent support; and a good list of regular subscribers is expected and required to maintain it. It is hoped that those interested in promoting a worthy development of research in America, in the subjects included within the scope of this journal, will energetically assist us.

THE October number of the *American Geologist* contains a number of interesting articles. John A. Dresser writes on 'The Petrography of Shefford Mountain.' The mountain discussed is one of a series of volcanic hills in the St. Lawrence Valley about fifty miles east of Montreal, Canada. The author concludes that the mountain is a laccolith, and that it contains three different flows represented by three different classes of rocks, viz: essexite, nordmarkyte and pulaskite. 'Paleontological Speculations,' by S. P. Gratacap is a continuation of a discussion begun in a number of a preceding volume. Mr. Warren Upham discusses 'Niagara Gorge and Post Glacial Time,' in which he gives some reasons based on recent investigations for estimating the duration of the Niagara River at 7,000 years. It is claimed that this estimate is more in harmony with estimates from other sources by Winchell,

Andrews, Emerson and others, than the longer period usually ascribed to this work. A 'Note on Certain Copper Minerals,' by A. W. Winchell, describes chalcopyrite and bornite found as an accidental furnace product replacing the iron rails in a calciner at a copper mine in Montana. The editorial comment includes an obituary notice with a short biography of Edw. W. Claypole, of Pasadena, California.

THE first number of a journal devoted to biological chemistry, entitled *Beiträge zur chemischen Physiologie und Pathologie—Zeitschrift für die gesamte Biochemie*, and edited by Dr. Franz Hoffmeister, professor of physiological chemistry at Strassburg, was issued recently. Its appearance may be interpreted as the outcome of the increasing application of chemical methods to the solution of biological and pathological problems.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

THE National Academy held its autumn meeting at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, on November 12, 13 and 14. The papers entered to be read were as follows:

'Note on Linear Force exerted by Growing Crystals': GEORGE F. BECKER.

'Note on the Orogenic Theory of Tilted Blocks': GEORGE F. BECKER.

'On the Vaso-motor Supply of the Lungs': HORATIO C. WOOD, JR. (Introduced by George F. Barker.)

'Biographical Memoir of Frederick Augustus Genth': GEORGE F. BARKER.

'On the Pseudo-catalytic Action of Concentrated Acids': JAMES M. CRAFTS.

'On the Use of the Stereographic Projection in Making Accurate Maps; with Criticism of some Recent Methods of Map Projection': SAMUEL L. PENFIELD.

'On the Logic of Research into Ancient History': CHARLES S. PEIRCE.

'Observations on Tungsten': EDGAR F. SMITH.

'The Monatomic Gases': GEORGE F. BARKER.

'Snake Venom in Relation to Hæmolysis, Bacteriolysis and Toxicity': S. WEIR MITCHELL and SIMON FLEXNER.

'The Tendency of Complex Chemical Radicals to control Crystallization because of their Mass Effect; a Study in Isomorphism': SAMUEL L. PENFIELD.

'On the Nature of the Double Halides': IRA REMSEN.

'Biographical Memoir of General John Newton': CYRUS B. COMSTOCK.

'Dolichocephaly and Brachycephaly as the Dominant Factors in Cranial Evolution': HENRY F. OSBORN.

'Cranial Evolution of *Titanotherium II.*': HENRY F. OSBORN.

'Latent or Potential Homology': HENRY F. OSBORN.

'A New Gauge for the Direct Measurement of Small Pressures': EDWARD W. MORLEY and CHARLES F. BRUSH.

'Transmission of Heat through Vapor of Water at Small Pressures': EDWARD W. MORLEY and CHARLES F. BRUSH.

'On the Newer Forms of Incandescent Electric Lamps': GEORGE F. BARKER.

'On Quadrant Electrometry with a Free Light Needle highly charged through a Conductor of Ionized Air': CARL BARUS.

'On Nuclear Condensation in the Vapor of Non-Electrolytes like Benzene; and on Graded Condensation': CARL BARUS.

'The Work of the International Association of Academies': HENRY L. BOWDITCH.

'A Method of Rearing Marine Larvæ': CASWELL GRAVE. (Introduced by William K. Brooks.)

THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE OF ST. LOUIS.

At the meeting of the Academy of Science of St. Louis, on the evening of November 4, 1901, Professor Alexander S. Chessin spoke 'On the Motion of a Top, taking into Account the Rotation of the Earth,' giving an abstract of his researches on the earth's rotation as manifested in the motion of bodies on its surface, the details of which he hoped to present shortly in a series of papers.

Two persons were elected to membership in the Academy. WILLIAM TRELEASE,

Recording Secretary.

THE ELISHA MITCHELL SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

THE 137th meeting of the Society was held on November 12, 7:15 P. M., in the chemical lecture room, Person Hall, University of North Carolina. The following papers were read:

'A Short Cut Percentage Calculation': E. V. HOWELL.

'Cold Light': J. W. GORE.

CHAS. BASKERVILLE,

Secretary.