

Zoologically the tendency is healthy. For the student's time will be set free to investigate collections of specimens from other standpoints than that of assigning each its name, animated by the desire to produce the longest possible list. Variations in a form will be studied as modifications adapted to particular environments. In museums the specimens can then be arranged, not as objects with so many long names as appendages, but as illustrating vital principles of natural history.

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GENERAL.

A NEW edition of Stieler's Handatlas to contain 100 copper-plate maps is now in course of publication by Perthes of Gotha, in fifty parts; the price of the complete work being 30 Marks. Half the maps are newly projected and engraved. All of them have relief in brown, in order to make the names in black more legible. In preparation for binding, each sheet has its title printed on the right corner of the back, with an outline map that indicates the location of the sheet and of the neighboring sheets with their numbers. The present edition is the ninth of this valuable work; the first having been completed by Stieler in 1831. Later editions were by Stölpnagel, Petermann, Berghaus and Vogel.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

THE January (opening) number of Vol. III. of the *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* contains the following papers: 'On a Class of Automorphic Functions,' by J. I. Hutchinson; 'Concerning the Existence of Surfaces Capable of Conformal Representation upon the Plane in such a Manner that Geodesic Lines are Represented by a Prescribed System of Curves,' by H. F. Stecker; 'Zur Erklärung der Bogenlänge und des Inhaltes einer krummen Fläche,' by O. Stolz; 'The Groups of Steiner in Problems of Contact,' by L. E. Dickson; 'Quaternion Space,' by A. S. Hathaway; 'Reciprocal Systems of Linear Differential Equations,' by E. J.

Wilczynski; 'On the Invariants of Quadratic Differential Forms,' by C. N. Haskins; 'The Second Variation of a Definite Integral when One End-point is Variable,' by G. A. Bliss; 'On the Nature and Use of the Functions Employed in the Recognition of Quadratic Residues,' by E. McClintock; 'A Determination of the Number of Real and Imaginary Roots of the Hypergeometric Series,' by E. B. Van Vleck; 'On the Projective Axioms of Geometry,' by E. H. Moore.

THE December number (Vol. VIII., No. 3) of the *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society* contains the following articles: 'The October Meeting of the American Mathematical Society,' by Edward Kasner; 'Modern Methods of Treating Dynamical Problems and in Particular the Problem of Three Bodies,' by E. W. Brown; 'The Hamburg Meeting of the Deutsche Mathematiker-Vereinigung,' by C. M. Mason; 'Some Curious Properties of Conics Touching the Line Infinity at One of the Circular Points,' by E. V. Huntington and J. K. Whittemore; 'Picard's *Traité d'Analyse*,' by Professor Maxime Bôcher; 'Errata,' 'Notes' and 'New Publications.' The January number of the *Bulletin* contains: 'Note on Mr. George Peirce's Approximate Construction for π ,' by Emile Lemoine; 'Concerning the Elliptic $\wp(g_2, g_3, z)$ -Functions as Coordinates in a Line Complex, and Certain Related Theorems,' by H. F. Stecker; 'On the Abelian Groups, which are Conformal with Non-Abelian Groups,' by G. A. Miller; 'The Infinitesimal Generators of Certain Parameter Groups,' by S. E. Slocum; 'Shorter Notices'; 'Notes' and 'New Publications.'

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE 130th regular meeting was held December 12. The following program was presented: 'The Solubility of Mixtures of Sodium Chloride and Sodium Sulphate': A. SEIDELL.

The author first gave a brief summary of the status of solubility work in solutions other than very dilute ones, and described in detail the experimental difficulties which have to be met in this kind of work. He then presented