

most the only evidence since the time of Willis that any master-hand has been working in this important field. The present publication places on record, in a convenient form, a considerable collection of such work and one likely to prove valuable to all mechanical engineers and draughtsmen.

The points here discussed and graphically treated are the general principles of the science, angular velocities, instantaneous axes, contact motions, including cams, rolling contacts, eccentric and related motions, linkwork, including 'slow advance and quick return' compositions, which are extensively treated, and, finally, the accelerative motions.

These discussions are concise, accurate, direct and clear. The theory of each case is developed as the construction progresses, in an admirable manner, and the graphical work is always equally clear, exact and legible. The author is an expert in this field and his skilful hand is recognized in the graphical constructions and their beautiful lines quite as well as in the text.

The book is printed on fine paper—which is, in fact, essential to the proper production of the illustrations—and the type and finish are alike appropriate to the artistic work of the writer of the treatise.

R. H. T.

GENERAL.

ON behalf of the Committee on Historical Documents of the American Historical Society, Supreme Court Justice Mitchell reported at the last meeting that arrangements had been made for the publication in full of the original journals of Lewis and Clark. These notebooks were deposited with the Society nearly a century ago by Governor Clark at the request of President Jefferson, under whose direction was sent out the expedition which gave the country the first knowledge of the newly acquired northwestern possessions.

THE Berlin and Copenhagen Academies of Sciences have commenced the task of collecting all the manuscript left by Galen and compiling a new and complete edition of his works.

THE preliminary work upon the preparation of a revised catalogue of the birds of Ohio has resulted in the addition of twenty species to the list since Dr. Wheaton's catalogue was published. Nearly 150 preliminary lists have been sent out for additions and corrections, but hardly a third of them have been returned to date. From those returned annotated much valuable information has been gained, particularly of an ecological nature, furnishing a basis for comparisons with conditions in Dr. Wheaton's time. Considerable field work must still be done in the extreme western, the eastern and the southern fifth of the State before the ideals upon which the work of revision was founded can be even approximately realized. As an aid to the furtherance of this work the compiler solicits information from all who are familiar with Ohio birds, who have not already examined a preliminary list. Communicate with Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE 348th meeting was held on Saturday evening, January 25.

Under the heading of notes W. H. Dall called attention to the practice indulged in by some writers of rejecting names in biology which differ only by terminations indicating gender, as *Cyprina* from *Cyprinus*. He reprobated the practice as, if carried out strictly, likely to overthrow many names which have been in universal use for a century or so, and with absolutely no gain to science. As a particularly glaring instance of this he cited a recent experience with the work of Duméril, 'Zoologie Analytique,' issued in 1806. Duméril gave names to the animals of mollusca, distinct from those applied to the shells, by adding to the latter the termination *arius*. Thus we have the animal of the shell called *Nassa* by Lamarck, referred to a genus *Nassarius* by Duméril. On the ground that this name existed, though like all Duméril's names an absolute synonym, the later genus *Nassaria* of Adams and Reeve has been rejected by a recent writer. On looking up the facts in the