

G. A. MILLER: 'A new proof of the generalized Wilson's theorem.'

A pleasant social feature of the meeting was an informal dinner on Monday evening at which about forty persons were present.

The next meeting of the society will be held in New York on Saturday, February 28. Arrangements are being made for the coming summer meeting and colloquium, to be held in August or September.

F. N. COLE,
Secretary.

THE NEW MEXICO ACADEMY OF SCIENCE.

A NEW MEXICO Academy of Science was formed at Las Vegas, N. M., on December 22. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Frank Springer.

Vice-President, Dr. Chas. R. Keyes.

Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. W. G. Tight.

Members of Executive Committee, T. D. A. Cockerell, J. D. Tinsley.

The following papers were read:

W. G. TIGHT: 'The Erosion Cycles of the Rio Grande at Albuquerque.'

E. L. HEWETT: 'Notes on the Pecos Indian Tribe.'

H. N. HERRICK: 'The Gypsum Deposits of New Mexico.'

J. D. TINSLEY: 'The Work of the Department of Soils and Physics of the New Mexico A. and M. College and Experiment Station.'

E. L. HEWETT: 'An Archeological Reconnaissance of the Chaco Cañon Region.'

C. E. MAGNUSON: 'Observations on Soil-moisture in New Mexico from the Hygienic Viewpoint.'

T. D. A. COCKERELL: 'Our Present Knowledge of the Fauna and Flora of New Mexico.'

JOHN WEINZIRL AND C. E. MAGNUSON: 'Further Contributions to the Study of the Blood Changes Due to Altitude.'

JOHN WEINZIRL: 'The Availability of New Mexico's Climate for Outdoor Life.' (Read by title only.)

W. G. TIGHT: 'The History of the Sandia Mountains.'

T. D. A. COCKERELL.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

MARINE ANIMALS IN INTERIOR WATERS.

THE recent accounts of the finding of squid in Lake Onondaga, New York, recall two similar instances that were brought to the attention of the U. S. Fish Commission several years ago.

The commission received for identification from Northern Michigan a specimen of remora (*Echeneis naucrates*), with the information that it had been caught by an Indian woman in a trout stream on the southern shore of Lake Superior. There was no reason to doubt the facts from the evidence contained in affidavits which were quickly produced. The true inwardness of this matter has never been cleared up, although it was learned that a New York City sportsman had been to this region a short time before and had been in the company of the man who forwarded the specimen.

By a singular coincidence, which must be of interest to psychologists and telepathists, at the time the Indian squaw was catching a remora in a Michigan river a Washington angler was landing another at the Great Falls of the Potomac, 16 miles above Washington and 60 miles from salt water. This specimen was brought to the Fish Commission the next day by the man who caught it, and whose ingenuousness there was no reason to doubt. Later, several of his friends called and explained that they had bought the fish in the market and attached it to his line when his attention was diverted.

On the authority of Professor Hargitt, of Syracuse University, a sargassum fish (*Pterophryne histrio*), said to have been caught in Onondaga Lake, was exhibited in Syracuse some years ago. H. M. SMITH.

A BRILLIANT METEOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: On the evening of November 15, at 6:45 central standard time, a very brilliant meteor was observed in its fall to the earth by many persons in the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. At once, though at first independently of each

other, Professor H. C. Lord, of the Emerson McMillan Observatory, Columbus, Ohio, and the writer began a series of investigations with a view to determining where it should have fallen. We secured reports from some twenty-five or thirty observers scattered over the states mentioned above; none of them, however, were expressed very definitely in terms of angular measurements, excepting those of Professor Lord and myself, and we evidently had not noted the altitude and azimuth of the meteor at exactly the same point of its descent. Satisfied, however, that if any pieces came to the earth, they must have fallen somewhere between Lexington and a point in Elliott County, Ky., where an observer saw the meteor to the west of him, I was induced to hunt down a rumor that it had fallen in Bath County, and was rewarded by finding that it had indeed come to earth in the extreme southern portion of that county, and had been picked up by the man who saw it strike the ground. The exact point struck was a stone in the road in front of the home of Mr. Buford Staten, five miles due south of Salt Lick, Ky.

The stone (for it is an aerolite) is roughly $8\frac{1}{2} \times 6 \times 4$ inches, has a volume of 1,642 c.c., and now weighs, with some pieces chipped off for analysis, 5,725 grms., or about 12 lbs. 10½ oz. It exhibits the usual black crust or varnish, the pittings, the grayish interior, and shows on analysis the disseminated nickeliferous metallic iron.

It is interesting to note that, though the approximate place of this aerolite's fall was not determined by calculations based upon observations giving the azimuths of the point where it appeared to burst as seen from different stations—the meteorite itself having been brought in before our investigations had reached the calculating stage—yet had it not been seen to strike the earth, it is not improbable that it would soon have been found as a result of special search. A projection of the lines of observation in accordance with the azimuths of the Columbus and Lexington determinations (S. 15 degrees W., and N. 81 degrees E.) cross in the southern portion of Bath County, Ky.

Note.—Since writing the above the meteorite has been purchased by Mr. Henry Ward for the Ward-Coonley Collection of Meteorites now on deposit in the American Museum of Natural History, New York city.

ARTHUR M. MILLER.

STATE COLLEGE OF KENTUCKY.

AN APPLICATION OF THE LAW OF PRIORITY.

THE first serious attempt to make regulations for the nomenclature of zoology was by a committee of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1842. Since then these rules have been both changed and added to, and may still be modified by the action of future zoological congresses. Nomenclature can never be stable so long as the rules are subject to modification. Why then not apply the law of priority to these rules, and declare that the 1842 rules of the British Association must stand, since they have the priority. Of course there were earlier attempts, just as there were binomials before Linnæus and Darwinism before Darwin, but all acknowledge that the 1842 action was the first serious work on zoological nomenclature. Therefore, following the law of priority, they should not be changed. Additions, of course, should be allowed, and these should also follow the law of priority. This would forever prevent change. The scheme of having a zoological congress to meet at intervals, for the discussion and decision of questions, permits of change; and no one can tell how slight or how great these changes may be in the future. Stability can only be obtained by deciding that something already accomplished can not be changed.

NATHAN BANKS.

CURRENT NOTES ON PHYSIOGRAPHY.

GLACIAL CHANNELS IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

FAIRCHILD's recent work on the 'Pleistocene Geology of Western New York' ('N. Y. State Museum, 20th Rep. State Geol.,' 1900 (1902), 103-139, plates and maps) includes the most complete statement yet made regarding those remarkable channels worn by rivers that followed temporary courses along the depression enclosed by the spurs of the Allegheny plateau on the south and the face of the retreating