

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1903.

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MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended
for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Pro-
fessor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS. HOMO SCIENTIFICUS AMERICANUS.*

MEMBERS of a society of naturalists, which includes psychology and anthropol-
ogy in its scope, are familiar with the part
played by rites and ceremonies in social
evolution. Millions of holy shrines have
been red with the blood of victims, and
from countless altars the smell of burnt
offerings has risen to heaven, in order that
men should be united in closer bonds. We
have not broken with the past; we meet
together at our annual feast; the lot has
fallen on your human sacrifice. Your so-
cial service is witnessed by the fact that
you do not send him a scape-goat into the
wilderness, but come to share his suffering.

The objects of our society, as I under-
stand them, are not the increase of facts
and the discussion of theories in each of the
natural sciences. Our aim is rather to be

* Address of the president of the American So-
ciety of Naturalists, read at the annual dinner,
Washington, D. C., January 1, 1903.

erly represented. The *Journal of Comparative Medicine and Veterinary Archives* is mentioned but once in the catalogue, although there were eighteen leading articles in which bacteria were described as the cause of the disease mentioned, and in some cases extensive studies were given of the diagnostic and cultural characters of the organisms. In the *American Veterinary Review*, not noticed in the catalogue, there appeared sixteen original articles similar to the above. In the *Medical Dial*, also not noticed, were nine leading articles treating of bacteriological studies, diagnoses and bacterial investigations of water supplies, milk, etc. The *Medical Record*, to which there appear five references for the whole year, contained in the issues from June to December, twenty-two articles that one would have expected to have found mentioned.

Since this publication, having an American representative, shows such an inadequate representation of American literature, it can hardly be wondered that so many European investigators not having access to the original publications are unacquainted with what is done on this side. Omissions from the present volume are to be included in the next, according to a note in the catalogue, and it is to be sincerely hoped that a greater effort will be made to fairly represent our American scientific literature. WALTER H. EVANS.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

BOURNE'S COMPARATIVE ANATOMY OF ANIMALS.*

THE first volume of the two comprising this work has already been noticed in this journal (*SCIENCE*, Vol. XII., p. 311, 1900). The present volume consists of a series of somewhat detailed descriptions of the structure and ontogeny of selected types of animals, the whole being intended to fit students for the preliminary and intermediate examinations in the British universities. The animals selected are the liverfluke (how this is celomate does not appear), earthworm, fresh-water mussel, snail, *Apus*, *Astacus*, cock-

* 'An Introduction to the Study of the Comparative Anatomy of Animals,' by Gilbert C. Bourne. Vol. II., 'The Celomate Metazoa.' London, George Bell and Sons, 1902, pp. xv + 321. 4s. 6d.

roach, *Amphioxus*, dogfish, frog, with a chapter on other annelids and a final one on the mammals.

As a whole, the descriptions are clear and accurate, and the seventy-seven illustrations illustrative of the text. Particularly instructive is the cut (fig. 44) of the pharyngeal region of *Amphioxus*. However, it is not well adapted for use in American schools, for it tells the student just those points which we insist that he shall ascertain for himself, so far as possible, from the specimen. As a 'cram manual' it would have a value. Lastly, the title is misleading. The whole work is descriptive, not comparative; in fact comparisons and broader features are rare in this second part, which in many respects falls short of the first volume.

J. S. KINGSLEY.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

THE March number (Volume 9, No. 6) of the *Bulletin* of the American Mathematical Society contains: Report of the ninth annual meeting of the American Mathematical Society, by Professor F. N. Cole; Report of the December meeting of the San Francisco Section, by Professor G. A. Miller; 'The abstract group G simply isomorphic with the alternating group on six letters,' by Professor L. E. Dickson; 'Note on a property of the conic sections,' by Professor H. F. Blichfeldt; 'The analytic theory of displacements,' by Mr. R. W. H. T. Hudson; Notes; New publications. The April number of the *Bulletin* contains: Report of the January meeting of the Chicago section, by Professor T. F. Holgate; 'Some groups in logic,' by Professor E. W. Davis; 'Cesàro's Intrinsic Geometry,' by Dr. Virgil Snyder; 'Gauss's Collected Works,' by Professor James Pierpont; 'Analytic projective geometry,' by Dr. E. B. Wilson; Shorter notices; Notes; New publications.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE 562d meeting was held January 31, 1903.

Professor A. N. Skinner, of the Naval Observatory, spoke by invitation on the 'Prog-