

to making navigation on the lakes safer. Bulletin K of the Weather Bureau, by Professor E. B. Garriott, entitled 'Storms of the Great Lakes' (4to, 1903, pp. 9, charts 968), includes 768 charts illustrating the more important storms of the lakes which have been described in the *Monthly Weather Review* during the twenty-five-year period 1876-1900. Each storm is illustrated by four charts, covering thirty-two to forty-eight hours of its history, the object being to present typical lake storms which have occurred in the different months of sufficient intensity to be dangerous to shipping. The month of November, with forty-five severe storms in twenty-five years, stands first. October and December rank in the same group, and then come September and March. The storms are classified as 'southwest storms (the most destructive)'; 'storms from the middle west,' 'northwest storms,' and 'storms of tropical origin.' This *Bulletin* will be useful first of all to the forecasters of the Weather Bureau whose districts embrace part of the Great Lake region, and to navigators on those Lakes, but teachers of meteorology in schools and colleges will find in this very large number of selected charts abundant material for illustration in connection with the study of weather maps and of cyclones.

## NOTES.

*The Annuaire météorologique pour 1903*, of the Royal Observatory of Belgium, contains, in addition to the usual meteorological data and tables, the following special contributions: A. Lancaster, 'La Force du Vent en Belgique' (pp. 220-352); E. Vanderlinden, 'Étude sur la Marche des Cirrus dans les Cyclones et les Anticyclones d'après les Observations faites à Uccle'; J. Vincent, 'Aperçu de l'Histoire de la Météorologie en Belgique, III. Partie.'

Beginning with May 6 last, the meteorological records obtained by means of kites at Hamburg have, together with those obtained at the Berlin Aeronautical Observatory, been published in the daily weather reports of the German Seewarte.

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## BOTANICAL NOTES.

## RECENT BOTANICAL PAPERS.

AMONG the recent botanical papers may be mentioned the following:

'The Wood Lot,' by Professor H. S. Graves, of the Yale Forest School, and R. T. Fisher, of the United States Bureau of Forestry. It is published by the United States Bureau of Forestry, and discusses the woodland problems, especially in New England, and makes suggestions in regard to the use and perpetuation of the small bodies of woodland which still persist in that portion of the country. It should prove very valuable to the New England farmer.

'The Seasoning of Timber,' is an interesting paper by Doctor von Schrenk, of the United States Bureau of Forestry. In it he discusses the problems which face the practical man in the seasoning of timber. The distribution of water in the timber, its relation to decay, what seasoning is, something as to preservative treatments, etc., make up the first part of the book, and this is followed by a discussion of experiments made in the west in the endeavor to secure greater durability by treatment of one kind and another. The paper is certainly one of the most helpful of any published by the bureau.

MR. J. N. ROSE, of the United States National Museum, publishes in the Contributions from the United States National Museum, a continuation of his 'Studies of Mexican and Central American Plants.' This contribution covers nearly sixty pages, and is filled with descriptions of new and little-known plants from this very interesting region. Several good colored illustrations accompany the paper.

In a recent number of *Rhodora*, Professor C. S. Sargent continues his descriptions of 'Recently Recognized Species of *Crataegus* in Eastern Canada and New England.' He adds a number of new species to the already very long list of recently separated forms.

## ANOTHER PHYTOBEZOAR.

SOME time ago there came into my possession a ball about ten centimeters in diameter,

which was taken from the stomach of a hog in October, 1899. This was one of several similar balls. When it came into my possession it had been somewhat compressed, so that it was somewhat cuboidal in form. Evidently, however, its form originally was pretty nearly spherical. From a preliminary study of the substance of the ball, I find that it consists entirely of vegetable fibers, and as far as the examination has gone these fibers appear to be those of alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*).

Externally, the ball is grayish in color with darker brown spots over the surface. The interior is buff color, and the whole is quite hard. It resembles in a general way the hair balls which are so frequently found in the stomachs of cattle, but is considerably heavier. This preliminary notice is made in order to call the attention of botanists who are situated near packing-houses where swine are killed to the possibility of finding more of these curious formations. A careful examination will be made of the fibrous material composing the ball, and a full report then published. Photographs have been taken of the ball, and these will be reproduced when the investigation has been completed.

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#### MEMORIAL OF THE LATE WALTER REED.

ON the fifteenth of August a meeting was held in Bar Harbor of friends of the late Major Reed, M.D., U.S.A., to whom in a large degree is due both the discovery of the mode by which yellow fever has been spread, and also the consequent suppression of that dire disease. Representative men were present from different parts of the country and letters were received from various members of committees already appointed to promote the collection of a memorial fund in grateful commemoration of Dr. Reed's services. Important suggestions were presented from President Eliot, Dr. W. W. Keen, Professor J. W. Mallet and others. Dr. Daniel C. Gilman, chairman of a committee appointed by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, presided, and Dr. Stuart Paton

acted as secretary. Among those who took part in the conference were Dr. W. H. Welch, of Baltimore; Dr. Janeway, of New York; Dr. Abbott, of Philadelphia; Dr. Herter, of New York; Dr. Barker, of Chicago; Dr. Putnam, of Buffalo; Dr. Fremont Smith, of Bar Harbor; and Dr. Sajous, of Philadelphia; and besides these medical gentlemen, Bishop Lawrence, of Massachusetts, and Messrs. Morris K. Jesup, president of the New York Chamber of Commerce; John S. Kennedy, president of the Presbyterian Hospital of New York, and William J. Schieffelin, of New York. The following conclusions were reached: that an effort should be made to raise a memorial fund of \$25,000 or more, the income to be given to the widow and daughter of Dr. Reed, and after their decease the principal to be appropriated either to the promotion of researches in Dr. Reed's special field, or to the erection of a memorial in his honor at Washington. Arrangements were made for the publication of circulars explaining this movement, and asking cooperation not only from the medical profession, but from all liberally disposed individuals who appreciate the value of Dr. Reed's services to mankind.

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE American Chemical Society will hold its next meeting in Convocation Week in conjunction with the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

DR. EMIL TIETZE, director of the Imperial Geological Institute of Austria, was chosen president of the Ninth International Geological Congress, which opened at Vienna on August 20.

DR. E. VON LEYDEN, professor of pathology at the University of Berlin, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his doctorate on August 11.

DR. R. LYDEKKER, F.R.S., has been elected a foreign member of the Accademia dei Lincei of Rome.

*The Botanical Gazette* states that Mr. C. G. Lloyd, of Cincinnati, has been elected a member of the German Botanical Society and of the Botanical Society of France.