

antennal characters (allowing a good deal of variation) were specific. Of course, it is quite possible that the English insect is more variable than the American ones, as is true of certain English plant genera, *e. g.*, *Rubus* and *Hieracium*.

One of the best tests in all such cases is the transplanting of specimens to different food-plants. Mr. Newstead did this rather extensively in the case of *Pulvinaria ribesiae*, which he treats as a variety of *P. vitis*. It was found that the *P. ribesiae* could not live on certain plants which are normally infested by *P. vitis*, and this, I think, should make one hesitate to assume the identity of closely similar forms.

*Dactylopus walkeri*, Newst., is evidently the British representative of our *D. neomexicanus*, the antennæ and other characters being very similar. In the figure accompanying Newstead's original account of *D. walkeri* the last antennal joint was apparently made too short.

It is strange that no mention whatever is made of *Lecanium liriodendri*, which was described from English specimens.

T. D. A. COCKERELL.

#### SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

*The Popular Science Monthly* for March opens with an article on 'Aerial Navigation,' by O. Chanute, which gives a résumé of what has been accomplished up to the present. W. LeConte Stevens discusses 'The Metric System: Shall it be Compulsory?' intimating that it must not be. J. Madison Taylor has a second paper on 'The Conservation of Energy in Those of Advancing Years' and Edward F. Williams has the first of a series of articles on 'The Royal Prussian Academy of Science, Berlin.' N. L. Britton describes 'The Tropical Station at Cinchona, Jamaica,' and Edw. D. Jones discusses 'Education and Industry,' noting the changes that have taken place in training for commercial life. O. F. Cook presents a paper on 'Evolution Not the Origin of Species,' holding that while evolution may change the character of species it does not originate them, this being due to vital motion. Lafayette B. Mendel gives 'Some Historical Aspects of Vegetarianism' and Naohidé Yatsu gives a sketch of 'Tokyo

Teikoku Diagaku (Imperial University of Japan).'

*The Museums Journal* of Great Britain for February contains an article on 'The Museum Question in Europe and America,' by Ant. Fritsch, in which the author notes that many undesirable features are to be found in museum buildings through the undue influence of architects. It is noted that most exhibition-collections are too large and a plea is made to have them of smaller size and greater educational value. Alex. M. Rodger describes 'A Method of Mounting Fish with Natural Surroundings,' large, rectangular tanks being employed and the fish preserved in formalin. A meeting is noticed to consider 'The Organization of British Zoologists' and the balance of the number is filled with reviews and notes.

We learn from the *Journal of the American Medical Association* that Dr. K. Kjellberg, of Stockholm, has commenced the publication of a weekly medical journal, to be the official organ for the General Swedish Medical Association. The title is *Almänna Svenska Läkartidningen*. The first two numbers contain instructive articles on 'Arrhenius and the Doctrine of Immunity' and others on Finsen treatment of lupus, paraffin prothesis, etc. The list of collaborators on the journal includes Professor E. Almqvist, J. Borelius, H. Köster and seventeen others. The journal *Eiga* was previously the organ of this association, but it suspended publication on the death of its editor, Dr. Simon, last June.

#### SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

##### GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, WASHINGTON.

THE one hundred and fiftieth meeting of the society was held January 27.

Mr. Wm. H. Dall read a paper on 'The Miocene of Maryland and its Relations,' in which the relations of the Chesapeake Miocene of Maryland to that of Virginia, North Carolina, Florida and the Miocene of central and northern Europe were elucidated and discussed. This paper will form a chapter in the forthcoming report on the Miocene of Maryland,