

as the diffusion of knowledge permits. All must be given a chance to breathe the fresh air, one must suppose, that the born 'saints' be not stifled; while, if 'saints' may be made, there must first be 'Christian Endeavorers' (to continue under the figure already borrowed from the editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*). Wherefore we still need our Mr. Mabies, even as our Mr. Mabies need improvement. We perhaps need even our Mr. Carl Snyders, but we certainly do not need our Mr. William J. Longs. We do need such delightful 'essay naturalists' as Mr. Burroughs; we need also professional naturalists who do not find it necessary to struggle against facts in order to develop or keep their individuality, but who try to make facts themselves attractive to both young and old; we need serious investigators in zoology and comparative psychology, who bring to their task 'an eye well practised in nature,' a mind exacting in its critical demands and furnished with a just knowledge of the results of previous workers, who are at the same time conscious of their obligation, as teachers, to a larger public. Above all, we need to-day, as much as ever, perhaps as never before, men whose attitude toward 'the people' resembles that of a Huxley or a Clifford, a Helmholtz or a Virchow, or that of many a lesser luminary, who by the popular exposition and inculcation of sound *principles* of science, have contributed effectively to the prevalence of light rather than darkness in the world, and, indirectly, at the same time, to the advancement of science itself.

And all these are needed (let it be stated whether *The Ypsilantian* thinks it 'nice' or whether it does not) in order that our children may be spared the painful necessity either of unlearning such pseudo-scientific fictions and anti-scientific prejudices as Mr. Long and his allies represent, or of growing up with minds perverted and ill adapted to survive as rational beings in a world of fact and law, though they struggle never so hard against both in the supposed interest of their individuality.

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#### SPECIAL ARTICLES.

##### THE ENCYCLOPEDIA AMERICANA ON ICHTHYOLOGY.

'THE Encyclopedia Americana,' now being published, is in some respects a meritorious work, but great carelessness has been manifested in some of the office editorial work. Such is especially the case in one of the articles of the last volume (Vol. VIII.) which has come to hand. The article in question is 'Ichthyology' and its author is President David Starr Jordan. The text is excellent but the illustrations are very badly identified and could not have been submitted to Dr. Jordan. We may imagine the surprise and disgust of the author when he finds the erroneous and strange names applied to more than half of the cuts. Those most erroneously named are the following in regular sequence (the pages are not numbered):

*Homocercal tail*.—It is the tail of a *Polyp-terus* and consequently not homocercal at all but diphycercal.

*Port Jackson Shark (Cestraciontes)*.—This is not the Port Jackson shark but the bull-head shark of California (*Gyroleurodus francisci*).

*Sting-ray (Raia)*.—No species of *Raia* is a 'sting-ray' and the figure does not represent what is generally called a 'sting-ray,' but a fish of a very different family, the *Aëtobatus narinari*.

*Viviparous Perch*.—The name is altogether too indefinite and misleading, inasmuch as it is very far from any true perch; it is the embiotocoid *Cymatogaster aggregatus* of California.

*Elephant Fish (Chimæra)*.—Not the true elephant fish but the ratfish of California (*Chimæra* or *Hydrolagus Coliei*).

*Gafftopsail Cat (Galeichthys)*.—By no means, but the common channel cat of the United States (*Ictalurus punctatus*).

*Pike (Lucius)*.—The fish figured is not at all related to the pike and belongs to a different order; it is a barracuda (*Sphyræna barracuda*).

*Butterfly-fish (Holacanthus)*.—Not related to *Holacanthus*, but the common *Zanclus cornutus* of the Indo-Pacific region.

*Globe-fish (Tetraodon).*—It is the *Ovoides setosus*.

*Rose-fish (Sebastes).*—The *Sebastes nigrocinctus* of California.

*An Antellariid.*—This is by no means an antennariid (as the word meant should have been written) but a ceratiid (*Caulophryne Jordani*).

*Bat-fish.*—As there are various fishes called bat-fish more definiteness is required than that name alone. The fish figured is the *Malthe vespertilio* of the eastern coast of the United States.

Surely it is a wrong to the public as well as to the author to give such work the wide circulation that the new encyclopedia will doubtless enjoy. The author of the article of course knows—none better—what are the right names to be attached to the figures and those given furnish sufficient evidence of the fact that the proof was not submitted to him—or at least that he did not correct it.

THEO. GILL.

#### THE MINNESOTA SEASIDE STATION.

THE Minnesota Seaside Station party of 1904 will meet at the Hotel Dominion, Victoria, B. C., about the nineteenth of July. The precise date, depending upon the sailing of the steamer, *Queen City*, will be announced, to those who join the party, when the sailings are determined upon by the navigation company.

The party will proceed to the station and will remain in camp for one month, returning to Victoria in time to reach the east before the opening of the schools in September.

Owing to the impossibility of making agreements about railway rates at the present time, no announcement of a party from Minneapolis can be made thus early. In the past it has been an easy matter to get excursion rates during July so that the railway fare and sleeping car tariff between Minneapolis and Victoria may be estimated under \$75. If a sufficient number join the station and desire the organization of a party to make the trip together, such organization will be undertaken and the trip will be made by one of the northern transcontinental routes with the usual stop-offs in the mountains.

The Minnesota Seaside Station is a biological camp and laboratory situated on the Straits of Fuca opposite Cape Flattery and in full view of the Olympic Mountains. The large log living house and the two laboratory buildings are upon the rocky and picturesque shore of the sea, while immediately behind there is the trackless forest of Vancouver Island with scarcely a human habitation. The combination of sea and forest and the absence of any of the distractions of the town make this camp one of the best spots in the country for study, recreation and health, as the hundred teachers and students who have visited it during the last three years can very well attest. During the season sunny weather is to be expected. There is an absence of noxious insects. One may sleep out of doors by driftwood fires and there is a sand beach with good bathing. Leisure moments can be occupied in cod or brook trout fishing, or in hunting.

The laboratories are equipped with microscopes and ordinary laboratory apparatus and during the month one can get a very complete introduction to a knowledge of the plants and animals of the shore. The configuration of the coast is favorable to the development of a varied fauna and flora. There are no restrictions placed upon legitimate collecting, and many of those who have visited the station have brought back large amounts of valuable botanical and zoological material. There are facilities for research and some important work has already been accomplished by members of previous parties.

An interesting feature at the station is lecture work conducted out of doors at various places within easy walking distance of the camp. Evenings are spent with informal talks upon biological or educational subjects or in song and story, sometimes in the large living room of the camp and sometimes around bonfires or mussel-bakes on the beach.

The botanical work during 1904 will be under the general direction of Professor Conway MacMillan, who will conduct special laboratory courses upon the ecology and morphology of the kelps and upon the anatomy and classification of the liverworts and mosses