

is usable by amateurs and other non-technical bryologists. The general botanist who wishes to know something about all kinds of plants has often felt that there is a needless technicality in the books devoted to the lower plants, and with the single exception of the lichens, the mosses have suffered most of all. Several years ago Professor Grout began work on the descriptive botany of the mosses with the intention of remedying this condition of things, and the result was a handy little elementary manual entitled 'Mosses with a Hand-Lens.' The success of this booklet has encouraged him to undertake a larger book, to which he gives the name 'Mosses with Hand-Lens and Microscope.' Of this, Part I. was published some time last year and was noticed in *SCIENCE* upon its appearance. Part II. is now in the press, and is to appear about the middle of May. An examination of advanced sheets shows that this is to be still better than the first part. With this book, when completed, the study of the mosses will be little more difficult than that of the flowering plants.

SUMMER BOTANY.

THE seaside laboratories are tempting botanists to vacation work at Woods Hole, Cold Spring Harbor and Vancouver Island, with several more stations yet to be heard from. In the interior the Lakeside Laboratory at Cedar Point (near Sandusky), and the alpine laboratory on Pike's Peak offer to the inlanders out-of-door recreation mingled with serious study. There should be little difficulty in determining where to go, in case one wants to get out into the air while at work. The sea always calls some of us, and the mountains too call us with a voice that we can not resist. Down by the sea we may study the strange and beautiful things that grow in the depths; on the mountain side we may study changes in vegetation due to altitude and low temperature. At the seaside we may bathe when we are warm and tired; on the mountain side we cool off in the thin air two miles above sea level, and rest under the fragrant Rocky Mountain pines and fir trees. Wherever we go we may do a little work—possibly a good piece of work; at any rate we may be

refreshed physically and mentally, so as to return to our class-rooms and laboratories in September able to do better work there.

CHARLES E. BESSEY.

THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY OF THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AT WOODS HOLE, MASS.

THE laboratory will be thrown open on June 16, and will be at the service of a limited number of investigators, for the study of problems in marine biology, from that date until the middle of September. The occupant of a table will as usual be furnished with the ordinary apparatus and reagents and with material for research free of charge. Certain of the steam and other vessels of the bureau will be at the disposal of the laboratory, and systematic collecting will be in progress during the entire season. Candidates for laboratory privileges are advised to submit their applications as early as possible. Those who are not already known at the station will be expected to offer evidence of their qualifications. Applications should be sent to the director, Dr. F. B. Sumner, College of the City of New York, New York, N. Y.

SCIENTIFIC POSITIONS IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

THE Civil Service Commission announces that on June 1-2, 1904, examinations will be held for the positions named below in the Bureau of Government Laboratories at Manila, P. I.

Pathologist.....	\$1,800
Pharmacologist	1,800
Chemist, Analytical Division, soils and waters	1,600
Chemist, Economic Products Division, familiar with organic chemistry, essential oils, etc	1,600
Chemist and collector, Economic Products Division	1,500
Assistant for physical chemist.....	1,500
Entomologist	1,400
Bacteriologist of Serum Division.....	1,400

These salaries represent the lowest salaries for entrance into the Bureau and it is the plan, as far as possible in the future, to bring in new men in the lowest salaried positions,