

# SCIENCE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, PUBLISHING THE  
OFFICIAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1905.

## CONTENTS.

<i>Scientific Surveys of the Philippine Islands</i> ..	761
<i>Anthropology and its Larger Problems</i> : DR. W J MCGEE.....	770
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>	
<i>Cattell's Post-mortem Pathology</i> : DR. LEWELLYS F. BARKER. <i>Ames's Orchida-</i> <i>ceae</i> : PROFESSOR CHARLES E. BESSEY.....	784
<i>Scientific Journals and Articles</i> .....	787
<i>Societies and Academies:—</i>	
<i>The Biological Society of Washington</i> : E. L. MORRIS. <i>The Clemson College Science</i> <i>Club</i> : DR. HAVEN METCALF.....	787
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>Suggestions toward a Phyto-geographic</i> <i>Nomenclature</i> : DR. JOHN W. HARSHBERGER	789
<i>Special Articles:—</i>	
<i>On the Habits of the Great Whale Shark</i> : DR. THEO. GILL. <i>A Faunal Survey of the</i> <i>Forest Reserves in the Sandhill Region of</i> <i>Nebraska and of the Lakes in that Region</i> : DR. ROBERT H. WOLCOTT. <i>The Mailed Cat-</i> <i>fishes of South America</i> : PROFESSOR C. H. EIGENMANN .....	790
<i>Current Notes on Meteorology:—</i>	
<i>Kite-flying at Sea; Mountain Sickness; The</i> <i>Monthly Weather Review; Floods in the</i> <i>Sahara; The Guinea Current</i> : PROFESSOR R. DE C. WARD.....	
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i> .....	797
<i>University and Educational News</i> .....	800

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended  
for review should be sent to the Editor of SCIENCE, Garri-  
son-on-Hudson, N. Y.

## SCIENTIFIC SURVEYS OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES.

*To the Senate and House of Representa-*  
*tives:*

Circumstances have placed under the control of this government the Philippine Archipelago. The islands of that group present as many interesting and novel questions with respect to their ethnology, their fauna and flora, and their geology and mineral resources as any region in the world. At my request, the National Academy of Sciences appointed a committee to consider and report upon the desirability of instituting scientific explorations of the Philippine Islands. The report of this committee, together with the report of the Board of Scientific Surveys of the Philippine Islands, including draft of a bill providing for surveys of the Philippine Islands, which board was appointed by me, after receiving the report of the committee appointed by the National Academy of Sciences, with instructions to prepare such estimates and make such suggestions as might appear to it pertinent in the circumstances, accompanies this message.

The scientific surveys which should be undertaken go far beyond any surveys or explorations which the government of the Philippine Islands, however completely self-supporting, could be expected to make. The surveys, while of course beneficial to the people of the Philippine Islands, should be undertaken as a national work for the information not merely of the people of the

new species, all from the Philippine Islands, and also by his treatment of *Spiranthes*, in which he distinguishes thirteen species for all of North America north of Mexico. That this promises a reduction in the number of catalogued species in North America is suggested by the fact that in the last edition of Gray's 'Manual' (covering only the northern United States east of the 100th meridian) there are six species; in Britton's 'Manual' (covering but little more territory) eight; and in Small's 'Flora of the Southeastern United States,' sixteen.

In regard to nomenclature the author says, 'the first specific name of each species under the correct generic interpretation, wherever this could be determined with reasonable surety, or employed without leading to complications, has been revived.' While this is probably too lax an application of the law of priority, the carefulness of the author in verifying every citation and in studying herbarium material will enable every orchid student to make any corrections that might be necessary under a stricter construction. Taken all in all this work is one which must be very highly commended, and which all botanists who are interested in orchids must look upon as a welcome addition to botanical literature.

CHARLES E. BESSEY.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.

#### SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

*The American Naturalist* for April has but two articles, an annotated list of 'Birds of the Isle of Pines,' by Outram Bangs and W. R. Zappey, and 'Studies on the Plant Cell—V.,' by Bradley Moore Davis, dealing with cell unions and nuclear fissions in plants.

*The Zoological Bulletin* for April tells of 'Further Improvements at the Aquarium' and of 'Photography at the Aquarium,' this being illustrated by many reproductions of photographs of fishes, that of the large spotted moray being particularly good.

*The Museums Journal* of Great Britain has articles on 'The Relationship existing between Statue and Pedestal in Classical and Renaissance Times,' 'Educational Museums

as Schools' and 'The Management of National Museums.' In the 'General Notes' is noticed the gift to the British Museum of a collection of 10,000 specimens of eggs of Palæarctic birds, and to the United States of the collections of etchings and paintings by Whistler, presented by Charles L. Freer, of Detroit. As the United States is the only great nation without a picture gallery it will be interesting to see what disposition will be made of this collection. The sale of a mounted specimen of great auk to an American museum is recorded, the price being £450, or about \$2,200. This is the highest price ever paid for a specimen of the great auk.

*The Popular Science Monthly* for May contains:

E. RUTHERFORD: 'Present Problems of Radio-activity.'

FRANK WALDO: 'The Harvard Medical School.'

A. D. MEAD: 'Alpheus Spring Packard.'

WM. E. RITTER: 'The Organization of Scientific Research.'

T. H. MORGAN: 'The Origin of Species through Selection contrasted with their Origin through the Appearance of Definite Varieties.'

EDWARD S. HOLDEN: 'Galileo,' continued from the February number.

CHARLES E. BESSEY: 'Life in a Seaside Summer School.'

*The Museum News* for April contains a number of short articles referring to exhibits recently added to the collections of the Museums of the Brooklyn Institute.

#### SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

THE BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE 401st regular meeting of the Biological Society of Washington was held April 8, 1905, with President Knowlton in the chair and 43 persons present.

The first paper of the evening was by Professor W. P. Hay, on 'A Class of Arthropoda New to the District of Columbia.'

The paper began with a brief description of a new species of *Macrobiotus*, a genus of *Tardigrada*, discovered in December, 1904, in an aquarium at Howard University. Attention was called to the fact that this is the first