dition of the soil, failure to rotate crops where clean cultivation is not followed, lack of proper trimming, failure to control injurious insects, fungus diseases, etc., or that there is insufficient plant food available. Orchards are sometimes seen, however, in which all these external conditions have been carefully attended to, the trees are thrifty, and still the fruit lacks color and quality. This condition involves a chemical problem and usually indicates, as proved in numerous instances, that the supply of available potash is insufficient for the tree's needs—a lack which must be supplied by rendering available the unavailable potash already in the soil, or by the application of further material in an available form.

Another important problem arises at this point, that is, the relation, if any, which exists between diseases of various kinds to which the apple tree or its fruit is subject and the conditions, as related to the soil, under which the trees are grown. Mr. G. H. Powell, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, stated in an address to the Western New York Horticultural Society, in 1903, that 'at the present time we would say that the practical control of the scald is primarily an orchard problem and depends on cultural conditions that develop the best and most highly colored fruit.[3] This being the case, it appears that this malady may be avoided, in some measure at least, by selecting soils which, with other things equal, tend to produce 'the best and most highly colored fruit.' It thus seems possible, and indeed probable, that soils in themselves may have a most direct influence upon the character of the tree growth and fruit growth which shall the better enable these to resist certain forces of disease besides the scald.

That the highest quality of fruit should be obtained on a soil which produces a tree neither stunted nor too rank in growth, but normal, well developed and hardy, and consequently productive of fruit the most attractive in appearance, is a natural inference. Sufficient proof of this point, however, is not at present available, but a field of investigation is opened which will become steadily more important as the already noticeable demand for a higher quality of apples increases.

HENRY J. WILDER.

[3] See Proceedings of the 48th Annual Meeting of the Western New York Horticultural Society, 1903.

A CORRECTION OF THE GENERIC NAME (DINOCHŒRUS) GIVEN TO CERTAIN FOSSIL REMAINS FROM THE LOUP FORK MIOCENE OF NEBRASKA.

WHILE in the field during the past summer (1905) the writer sent to Dr. W. J. Holland (director, Carnegie Museum) a preliminary note on certain fossil remains of the family Suidæ from the Loup Fork Miocene of Sioux County, Nebraska. I proposed *Dinohyus hollandi* as the name and asked Dr. Holland if he would kindly look to see if that generic name was preoccupied before publishing the note. In reply Dr. Holland wrote me that *Dinochœrus* 'appears to be a better word,' and that it was not preoccupied. I agreed to the change, but find that the name *Dinochœrus* has been used by Gloger, for a South African hog (*Hand- und Hilfsbuch Naturgeschichte*, I., pp. xxxii, 131, 1841), and, therefore, propose my original name *Dinohyus hollandi* for the fossil remains, which was published in SCIENCE, N. S., Vol. XXII., No. 555, pp. 211–212, August 18, 1905.

O. A. PETERSON.

CARNEGIE MUSEUM,
October 24, 1905.

QUOTATIONS.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN JAPAN.

PROFESSOR TOMIZU, most eminent of Japanese authorities on Roman law and professor in the Imperial University, Tokio, has lost his chair, arbitrarily removed by the minister of education, owing to his passionate denunciation of the ministry for the terms which it authorized Japan's representatives at Portsmouth to accept. He is one of a group of seven professors in the university who have been critical of the ministry ever since the war with Russia began.

Professor Tomizu's eminence together with the radical nature of the government's con-

duct, have stirred twenty professors in the university and not a few other teachers to memorialize the minister of state for education. They insist that the competency of Professor Tomizu to hold his chair and his personal character and general conduct are the main points for a minister of education to consider, and not his political opinions from which the ministry and many others may differ. They contend, moreover, that there is nothing in the rules laid down for civil officials, which authorizes the treatment of a man with a university professor's status in such a way.

This appeal represents the convictions of some of the most eminent names in Japan's list of pedagogues and scientists, who, however much they wish a renewal of Professor Tomizu's right status, care even more for the principle involved and the precedent established, a precedent contrary, they believe, to the best educational and political interests of the land. They realize that if Professor Tomizu can be summarily discharged by a minister of education on this issue, they may be discharged at any time on other issues.

In this country academic opinion usually is favorable to peace and hostile to war and extreme measures. In Japan, during the recent conflict with Russia, academic opinion has been conspicuous for a belligerency of spirit.

Japan's surviving autocracy and absolutism under parliamentary forms, has enabled the ministry in its dealing with journalists to be as severe and peremptory as public welfare seemed to make necessary. Professor Tomizu has felt the same iron hand, conserving the interests of peace, at a time when popular feeling has run high and strong.—*The Boston Transcript.*

NOTES ON ENTOMOLOGY.

Several fascicles of Wytsman's 'Genera Insectorum' have recently been issued; some of much interest to American entomologists. Fascicle 22 treats of the Braconidæ; it is in two parts, of 253 pages and 3 colored plates; it is written by Gy. V. Szépligeti. His classification is, in the main, that of Dr. Ashmead, but he has added several new genera.

Fascicle 23 deals with the Criocerida, a group of chrysomelid beetles. M. Jacoby and H. Clavareau are the authors, and the paper contains 40 pages and 5 colored plates. Most of these forms are exotic.

Fascicle 24 is on the subfamily Scutellerinæ of the family Pentatomidæ. It is by H. Schouteden, and occupies 98 pages and 5 colored plates. Most of the species are from the tropics.

Fascicle 25 is by J. Desneux on the Termitidæ or white ants. There are 52 pages and 2 colored plates. He has given a very complete catalogue of the family. His sinking of the many new genera recently created at the expense of the old genus *Termes* is to be highly commended, although he admits that the genus may be divided into six subgenera.

Fascicle 26 is devoted to the Culicidæ, or mosquitoes; F. W. Theobald is the author. There are 50 pages and 2 colored plates. One notices the omission of several species described by Miss Ludlow, and other American entomologists. Apparently ignorant of their identity, Mr. Theobald retains both *Pelorempis* and *Eucorethra* as distinct genera, and even finds characters to separate them in the table.

A useful article is that by Mr. M. T. Cook on the insect galls of Indiana.[1] It includes a general treatment of galls, a catalogue of the Indiana species, with a brief description, and often figure, of the gall, ending with a bibliography. The insects are not described. The enthusiastic author appears, unfortunately, to have but a slight acquaintance with the European literature on cecidii.

Major T. L. Casey has revised another large group of American beetles; the tribe Pæderini of the family Staphylinidæ.[2] The generic synopses include all American genera, but the specific tables include only the species from the United States. Many of the genera are described as new, and there are many notes on the position of genera, and suggested improvements in the accepted classification.

[1] 'The Insect Galls of Indiana,' 29th Ann. Rept. Dept. Geol. Indiana, 1904, pp. 801–867, 52 figs.

[2] 'A Revision of the American Pæderini,' *Trans. Acad. Sci. St. Louis,* XV., pp. 17–248, 1905.