THE STUDY OF DIATOMS

THE "Report on the Diatoms of the Albatross Voyages in the Pacific Ocean, 1888–1904," by Albert Mann, published as one of the Contributions from the United States National Herbarium (vol. 10, part 5) is a notable addition to our knowledge of this group of plants. In the introductory pages the author describes the methods of work, and points out the importance of a fuller study of these plants than has yet been given them by our government officials. The generic and specific names accord with "the rules now generally prevailing in botanical nomenclature," necessitating in some instances "the substitution of obscure and inappropriate names for those universally known and recorded among living diatomists," which the author "feels to be a grave misfortune." The "Annotated Catalogue" which occupies 160 pages, includes three hundred species, of which forty-three are here described for the first time. The author has not found it necessary to establish any new genera, and this fact taken with the very moderate number of new species, shows him to be conservative in his treatment of the group. It is interesting to note that of the species, 169 belong to the subfamily *Centricae,* while 131 belong to the *Pennatae.* The large genera are *Coscinodiscus,* with 34 species; *Tripodiscus,* 13; *Biddulphia,* 30; and *Navicula,* 54. A most useful bibliography (the work of P. L. Ricker) including about four hundred titles, and eleven full-page plates, including 56 figures (mostly of new species) complete this very interesting and valuable paper.

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MEDALS FOR RESEARCH IN TROPICAL MEDICINE

THE Mary Kingsley medal, instituted by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine to commemorate Miss Mary Kingsley, the African traveler, who died in 1900, has been presented to the following for distinction in work of special research into tropical medicine:

1. Colonel David Bruce, F.R.S., C.B., Royal Army Medical Corps, who in 1887 discovered the cause of Malta fever, and proved that that malady was produced by the milk of infected goats.

2. Professor Dr. Robert Koch, Nobel Laureate, who ascertained the cause of cholera, and who has contributed much to the knowledge of tropical diseases, especially the discovery of the frequency of malarial infection in children.

3. Dr. A. Laveran, Pasteur Institute, Paris, and D.Sc., University of Liverpool, who in 1880 made the great discovery that malarial fever is caused by parasites in blood.

4. Sir Patrick Manson, F.R.S., K.C.M.G., London School of Tropical Medicine, who in 1878 discovered that one of the parasites of man belonging to the group of *Filaria* is carried by a kind of mosquito.

5. Dr. Basile Danilswsky, professor of physiology, University of Kharkoff, who discovered numerous parasites of blood in a large number of animals shortly after Laveran's discovery was made.

6. Dr. Charles Finlay, chief sanitary officer of Cuba, who in 1880 originated the theory that yellow fever is carried by mosquitoes.

7. Dr. Camirlo Golgi, professor of pathology, University of Pavia, who in 1887 made a complete study of the life cycle of parasites of malaria.

8. Colonel W. C. Gorgas, United States Army, who as chief sanitary officer of Havana gave practical effect in 1902 to the discoveries of Finlay and of the American commission in connection with yellow fever, and succeeded in banishing the disease from the city.

9. Waldemar Mordecai W. Haffkine, C.I.E., who in 1893 discovered a method of inoculation beneficially used in India.

10. Dr. Arthur Loos, professor of parasitology, School of Medicine, Cairo, for work in connection with parasitology.

11. Dr. Theobald Smith, professor of comparative pathology, Harvard University, who in 1893 discovered a new kind of blood parasite in the so-called Texas cattle fever.