

of "psychologies." Equally must it be pointed out that the forest does not appear very plainly or very attractively among the trees. There is a little too much detail, a little too little contouring of the larger topography. The map is serviceable, but not illuminating. On the third count the writer must frankly express his doubts. The genus student is a difficult guest and his reactions uncertain. Doubtless he likes not that which is good for him, and partakes in large quantities of what is pernicious. Yet, after all, he has a rather versatile appetite which responds to judicious encouragement. Plainly, the diet must be made attractive. Professor Judd's book is not emphatically unattractive from the student's point of view; yet in this respect, it does not compare in success of achievement with several of its rivals for collegiate favor—notably with Professor Angell's text.

Writing texts is like much else, a matter of temperament. The good text-writer is largely born and not made—at least not by the publisher's solicitation. Nor have the best teachers always proved themselves the best writers of texts. The conditions are not unlike those attaching to the construction of ocean steamships, requiring one model for speed and another for cargo. Each result is a compromise; though some are plainly freighters; and others lightly burdened greyhounds. Solidity of content and attractiveness of exposition are not incompatible; but when they are found in marked degree, the possessor thereof should feel within him the call to write a text. In the meantime we shall be content with what there is, and welcome Professor Judd's volumes to a place among their fellows.

JOSEPH JASTROW

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES

The American Naturalist for February has an article on "The Law of Geminate Species," by David Starr Jordan, geminate species, being two closely related species, found on opposite sides of some natural barrier. Henri Hus discusses "Fasciations of Known Causation," noting that these abnormalities may be transmitted by seeds or cuttings. Charles A. White treats of "The

Aggregate Origination of Parasitic Plants" and Charles Depéret of "The Evolution of the Tertiary Mammals and the Importance of their Migrations," considering the changes in the fauna of certain European beds as brought about by local evolution and by immigrations from North America and other regions. G. H. Parker considers "Zoological Progress" or the increase in our knowledge of the animal kingdom. Under "Notes and Literature" variation in *Amblystoma tigrinum* finds itself under *Invertebrate Morphology*.

Bird-Lore for March-April has articles on "The Home Life of the American Egret," by Frank M. Chapman; "The Background of Ornithology," by Spencer Trotter; "The Nest in the Gutter," by Gilbert H. Trafton, and the third paper on "The Migration of Flycatchers," by W. W. Cooke. Under "The Common Names of North American Birds" Edward H. Perkins proposes changes in some inapplicable names. The Audubon leaflet is by Mabel Osgood Wright and is devoted to the song sparrow. A new bird reservation in Florida, known as the Mosquito Inlet Reservation, is announced.

The Zoological Society Bulletin for April is an "Aquarium Number" and deals with all manner of aquatic animals. There are articles on "The Natural Foods of Fresh-water Fishes," "Porpoises, Long-lived Fishes"—some of which have lived in the Aquarium for fourteen years—"The Sturgeons, Electrical Fishes and Luminous Fishes." "The Largest Marine Animals" gives much information on the size and weight of many species and "A Large Lobster" records a specimen twenty-three and three quarter inches from tail to rostrum and weighing thirty-four pounds. It is announced that an effort will be made to capture some porpoises by means of a heavy seine and bring them alive to the aquarium.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES

THE BOSTON SOCIETY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
COMPARATIVE ANATOMY AT THE HARVARD
MEDICAL SCHOOL

A SPECIAL meeting of the Boston Society of Medical Sciences, devoted entirely to the cur-