plan of psychological examination may have the advantage of didactic simplicity, but it will lead rather to the picking out of a verbal diagnosis than to an understanding of the meaning and spirit of the disorder of the patient.

The mental cases given are clear but very elementary and there is very little help towards finding the way, where actual difficulties would arise.

In a future edition the grouping and the interpretation and utilization of the results should be given better attention, and by using different types of print the important and obligatory steps might be put into contrast with the matters to be used to settle less common difficulties.

A. M.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES

The Bulletin of the Charleston Museum for November comprises Notes on Taxidermy, Library News, Notes from the Museum and notices of The Natural History Society. The sound advice is given to those interested in taxidermy to practise on English sparrows and not endeavor to mount a bird until they can put up a good skin. The library possesses some interesting portraits of former officers and a bust of Bachman.

The Museum Journal of Great Britain for November contains accounts of the "Oxford Museum Jubilee" and the "Museum Conference in Rochdale" and "The Arrangement of an Egyptological Collection," by W. E. Hoyle. This comprises a suggested classification of exhibits and three alternative schemes for arrangement, chronological, topical and ideal, the latter being an effort to present a general view of Egyptian civilization. Arthur Fairbank presents the plans for "The New Building for the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston."

The Zoological Bulletin, Division of Zoology, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, though dated September 1, has only recently been received. It is devoted to a "First Report on the Economic Features of Turtles of Pennsylvania" and is a companion volume to the serpents of Pennsylvania previously issued. The report comprises descriptions of all the turtles found in Pennsylvania, with accounts of their habits, value as food, and their beneficial or harmful character as indicated by the plants and animals on which they feed. The large amount of information as to habits and the food of turtles makes the paper particularly valuable. Half-tone plates, mostly provided from the American Museum of Natural History, are given of the various species and there are also in the text many most excellent pen drawings by W. R. Walton. Two original plates show good series of the variable and closely related species *Chrysemys marginata* and *C. picta.* Mr. Surface is to be congratulated on having placed so much information within reach of so many readers.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

THE TEXAS TERTIARIES—A CORRECTION

THE original section of the Texas Tertiary published in the *Journal of Geology* for 1894 made the Eocene end with the Frio substage of the Claiborne, which was followed immediately by the Oakville beds of supposedly Miocene age. Based on this classification and on the decision of Professor G. D. Harris that fossils found in sandstones just north of Corrigan were of Claiborne age, Mr. Kennedy referred these sandstones to the Fayette sand and the overlying or Fleming clays to the Frio. Larger collections from this locality made later by Mr. Veatch proved the Jackson age of the sandstones and this implied a similar wrong assignment on our part of the Frio clays. From Mr. Veatch's statement in his report "Underground Water Resources of Northern Louisiana and Southern Arkansas," he evidently considered the reference of the Corrigan beds as made by Kennedy incorrect, and our recent stratigraphic work on them has proved this to be true.

On the Rio Grande, Nueces and San Antonio rivers, and probably on the Colorado, the original section holds, and the Frio beds which carry Eocene fossils in places are immediately overlain by the Oakville. In the eastern part of the state, however, beds of Jackson age appear in places between the Frio and Oakville.

On the Houston East and West Texas Railway, the sands which really represent the Fayette beds occur around Lufkin, but the exposures on the railroad, where the section was originally made, are so small that they were considered as simply a part of the Yegua beds, which were thereby given a much greater areal distribution than elsewhere and made to include the overlying Frio clay as well.

The contact between the Yegua and Fayette should have been given as just north of Lufkin and the Frio clays should have been shown as occupying the area between Burke and the top of the bluff on the south bank of the Neches River. At this latter point, we have the contact of the sandy limestone containing Jackson fossils, and this is overlain by the Fleming-Burkeville beds, while the Oakville sands appear just south of Corrigan. Similar conditions exist east and northeast of Corrigan to the Sabine River, and it is altogether probable that some of the deposits lying to the west and classed by Kennedy as Navasota beds may belong to this same horizon.

The same section is also shown on the Conchas River in Tamaulipas, Mex., where the Fayette sand, with its characteristic fossil *Ostrea alabamiensis* var. *contracta* is overlain by the Frio clays and these in turn by sandstones with a distinct Oligocene fauna.

It would therefore appear that while the Oligocene was probably laid down entirely across this area, it is now covered in many places by the overlapping Oakville.

E. T. Dumble

THE SIXTIETH MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, BALTIMORE, MD., DECEMBER 28–JANUARY 1, 1908–9

One of the most successful meetings in the history of the American Association, and in some regards the most successful, was brought to a close Friday evening, January 1, 1909, at Baltimore. Ample provisions for a large meeting were made by the local committee, and the expectations were fully realized. The total registration of the members of the association was 1,088 and the affiliated societies reporting adds 117. The next largest registration to this was at Washington, in 1903, when 903 were recorded. But, as always, many in attendance were not registered, and a conservative estimate would bring the attendance of scientific men up to about 2,000. One striking feature in the attendance was the large number of men from the various government services in Washington, who came over and lent their presence in the meetings of every section.

Great credit is due to the energy and efficiency of the local committee, of which Professor Wm. H. Welch was chairman and Professor Wm. J. A. Bliss secretary. The meeting places, mostly in the buildings of the Johns Hopkins University and Medical School, were ample and convenient, and the hotel accommodations excellent. There was not a hitch in the carrying out of the program; every want was provided for in advance.

The opening session was held in the audience room of McCoy Hall, Johns Hopkins University, at 10 A.M. Monday, December 28, 1908, with the retiring president, Professor E. L. Nichols, of Cornell University, in the chair, who introduced the incoming president, Professor T. C. Chamberlin, of the University of Chicago, who presided. Addresses of welcome were made on behalf of the educational institutions of the city by President Ira Remsen, on behalf of the local committee by Dr. Wm. H. Welch and on behalf of the city of Baltimore by the mayor, Hon. J. Barry Mahool. It was recalled that when the association met in Baltimore fifty years ago, the membership was only 1,000 and the attendance at the meetings only 200, while now the membership has grown to 7,000 and the association has been divided into eleven sections, each devoted to a phase of scientific work, and even sections subdivided, in the case of Section C, chemistry, there being eight subsections, each with large attendance, and papers enough to occupy two or three days in the reading.

The presidential address by Professor E. L. Nichols, of Cornell University, was given in the hall of the Peabody Institute before a large audience of members and citizens of the town. The address was a masterly presentation of the thought that all the material advance of society is based on the discovery of laws and the establishment of principles by research in pure science; that the most of this research and of these contributions up to date have been made in lands across the sea; that our universities are not properly providing for research, and that great improvement along these lines is possible, the recent noble bequest of Senator Vilas to the University of Wisconsin for the endowment of research professorships pointing the way.