form. The timber is suitable for many purposes, saws readily, is fine grained and light brown. The burr and nut of both varieties are almost identical in size and appearance with the eastern chinquapin. They are difficult to obtain and are frequently attacked by a small whitish worm, the egg of which is deposited, as in the eastern chinquapin and chestnut, by a moth.

The writer suggests that the giant chinquapin be experimented with as a possible resistant species to reforest the eastern states devastated by the chestnut tree disease. The tree would probably stand the eastern conditions south of Maryland. The shrub is extremely hardy.

Marsden Manson

San Francisco, Cal.,
January 8, 1912

AN UNUSUAL EFFECT OF A LIGHTNING DISCHARGE

The following note made by the writer under date of July 18, 1911, may be of interest: On the land of J. M. Dunklee (of Hawes postoffice, Ark.), in the N.E. ¼ of the N.E. ¼ of Sec. 11, T. 2 S., R. 20 W., the lightning struck an oak tree (according to Mr. Dunklee three years ago), much shattering it. The tree stood near the top of a sandstone ridge. The discharge passed to the roots of the tree, then followed in the ground down the north slope, tearing out a trench in places 3 feet wide, and which must at first have been 2½ feet deep. At this time, the depth is 1½ feet. The discharge followed down the slope 50 feet, tearing up the sandstone and throwing one block that is estimated to weigh 1,200 pounds up into the air and out of the trench. At the lower end of the trench, the discharge apparently passed beneath the surface, along a bedding plane between the upturned layers of sandstone. There is no evidence of any fusion of the rocks or the soil.

A. H. Purdue

Fayetteville, Ark.,
January 10, 1912

"MISUSE OF THE TERM 'GENOTYPE'"

To the Editor of Science: If the distinguished students of genetics whose communications have recently appeared in your pages do not imagine that their work is of interest to biologists and naturalists at large, then one is entitled to question their claim to so much of your space. Let them, one might say, confine their "terminological inexactitudes" to their own technical periodicals. If, however, they believe, as I do, that their highly valuable work should appeal to all biologists, and that it has a particularly important bearing on the methods and conclusions of the systematist, then surely they should try to avoid the use of terms that are liable to mislead the general naturalist, and that sooner or later must clash with those of the taxonomic biologist. But assuming that they persist in acting as though their work were either unworthy of general attention or far above the heads of all outside their charmed circle, still may one not appeal to them to recognize that serious writers in Science are at any rate their scientific colleagues, and as such have a claim to be treated with ordinary courtesy? To state, after what has been written, that Dr. Johannsen is the "originator of the word genotype" is to give either the cut direct or the lie direct to a fellow-worker.

F. A. Bather

London, England,
January 17, 1912

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

The Animals and Man. An Elementary Text-book of Zoology and Human Physiology. By Vernon Lyman Kellogg. New York, Henry Holt and Company. Pp. 495.

The present trend in high schools toward a combined course in human physiology and zoology is calling forth its inevitable train of new text-books, of which the present volume by Professor Kellogg is one. Knowing the writer's practise in text-book preparation and his wide experience as a teacher and a zoologist, one is justified in looking for something exceptional in this new effort, but the reviewer must confess to a feeling of disappointment on reading the book. It has the appearance of having been hastily constructed with a somewhat too liberal use of scissors and paste on