Naturae," and in that edition (1758) Linnaeus termed the creature in question *Volvox chaos,* later changing it to *Chaos protheus* in his twelfth edition. Thus the past nomenclature of Ameba seems to have been almost as protean as the creature itself. I suspect, however, that most of us will go on using the term Ameba or Amoeba, as our respective judgments may dictate. As to Paramecium, since the original spelling was with an *e* and not an *oe* or an *ae,* the correct form is obviously Paramecium.

M. F. GUYER

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

MORE OHIO MEDUSAE

IN my recent communication on an occurrence of fresh-water medusae at Akron, Ohio,[1] I made reference to the approximate number of such discoveries in the United States. Since I stated mine was the second such occurrence in Ohio, I must make this correction. I inadvertently overlooked others of recent dates.

In September, 1930, some medusae were found in Vermillion River, some in a quarry near Ashland, and in October, 1931, some in a quarry near Toledo, all localities in northern Ohio. These were reported in an abstract by Mr. Robert L. Baird, of Oberlin, Ohio.[2]

WALTER C. KRAATZ

UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

FARADAY'S DIARY

IN a recent review of Faraday's Diary (SCIENCE, Jan. 13) I pointed out that one of the most important experiments in electromagnetic induction, described in the First Series of Experimental Researches, noted as read on November 24, 1831, is entered in the Diary under date of December 26. I ventured to suggest that the date in the Diary must be wrong. After correspondence with Mr. Thomas Martin, the editor of the Diary, I am convinced that it was right. Mr. Martin permits me to say on his authority that considerable additions were made to the First and Second Series of the Experimental Researches in Electricity after the papers were read and before they were published.

No question of priority is involved, and I make this correction only for the sake of historical accuracy.

W. F. MAGIE

SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS AND LABORATORY METHODS

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN GRAVITY APPARATUS

THE greatly increased interest taken in the use of geophysical methods in searching for buried geological structure, has resulted in an increased use of gravity apparatus for determining the value of g. For several decades the Von Sterneck invariable pendulum apparatus, or some modification of it, was used by geodesists for determining gravity. The observations were planned to meet the needs of physicists and chemists working in laboratories, and to enable geodesists to determine the figure of the earth or isostasists to study the distribution of densities throughout the earth's crust.

As gravity stations have become more closely spaced, it has been found that there is a definite relation between the gravity anomalies and the density of the rock close to the stations. This relationship is indicated in one way by large differences in anomalies for stations close together, of which there are several notable examples.

The Coast and Geodetic Survey, having had many calls for gravity surveys, assigned E. J. Brown, one of its field engineers, to the task of modernizing its pendulum apparatus, which had been in use since the early nineties. Brown finished his work about a year ago and the apparatus, named after him, has since been given a very severe test in the field, during which about seventy stations were established. The results have been in every way satisfactory. With the Brown apparatus one station a day can be observed, provided the distance between stations is not excessive, while with the old apparatus of the Coast Survey it was impossible to observe satisfactorily more than five stations per month.

The essential features of the Brown apparatus are:

(1) The receiver supports are about in the same horizontal plane as the knife edge on which the pendulum swings. This arrangement greatly reduces the flexure of the apparatus.

(2) The oscillations of the pendulum are made to actuate a photoelectric cell and the impulses are amplified until they operate the chronograph pen. With this arrangement the time signals sent from the Naval Observatory by radio can be compared directly on the chronograph sheet with the oscillations of the pendulum and a chronometer is not needed as an intermediary timepiece.

(3) Another very important feature of the Brown apparatus is that most of the auxiliary parts of the gravity equipment are installed permanently in an automobile truck. These parts include the chronograph, radio apparatus used for receiving the signals, switchboard, batteries, etc. The only important part

[1] SCIENCE, 77: 87, 1933.

[2] *Ohio Jour. Science,* 32: 323, 1932.