

ter. The *Chronicle* refused to print it, but offered to correct any misstatements in its article, an illusory offer in relation to such a tissue of inaccuracies, and one which we had no desire to accept.

We think it right that the scientific professions should know the attitude which the conductors of some newspapers consider themselves justified in adopting towards scientific workers, and we wish to record in your columns, once for all, that protest which they have not permitted us to make in theirs.

G. N. STEWART,
C. C. GUTHRIE.

CHICAGO, APRIL 3, 1905.

Sir:—In yesterday's issue of your paper there occurs a garbled and misleading account of certain experiments communicated by us to a meeting of physiologists of the central states. We are entirely opposed to the discussion of such matters in the lay press. If any reporter was present at our meeting he certainly was there without invitation or permission. We do not know from what source this remarkable piece of copy reached your office. But we can not think the writer has fully considered how injurious such notices may be to the reputation of scientific investigators; and while we entertain the greatest respect for your paper in its proper sphere, we must beg of you in the future to do us the honor of leaving us and our work alone. We trust that you will give this letter the same publicity as the paragraph to which we object.

We remain, yours truly,

(Signed) G. N. STEWART,
C. C. GUTHRIE.

A MODEST STUDENT OF ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGY.

In the preface to 'The Watchers of the Trails' its author, C. G. D. Roberts, writes:

The psychological processes of the animals are so simple, so obvious, in comparison with those of man, their actions flow so directly from their springs of impulse, that it is, as a rule, an easy matter to infer the motives which are at any one moment impelling them. In my desire to avoid alike the melodramatic, the visionary and the sentimental, I have studied to keep well within the limits of safe inference. Where I may have seemed to state too confidently the motives underlying the special action of this or that animal, it will usually be found that the action itself is

very fully presented; and it will, I think, be further found that the motive which I have here assumed affords the most reasonable, if not the only reasonable, explanation of that action.

On page 221 of the same book the author writes:

As the raccoons crept along behind the woodshed they smelt traces of a sickly pungent odour, and knew that other marauders had been on the ground not very long before. This made them bolder in their enterprise, for they knew that such depredations as they might commit would be laid to the account of the skunks, and, therefore not likely to draw down vengeance upon the [raccoon's] den in the sycamore.

MAYNARD M. METCALF.

THE WOMAN'S COLLEGE OF BALTIMORE,
March 19, 1905.

A NEW FORM OF STEREOSCOPE.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: I read with interest Professor Whitman's account of his new form of stereoscope in your issue of April 7. I have described the same type of instrument in SCIENCE, Vol. VII., p. 619. I was led to the invention thereof by the instrument called the perspectoscope which mistakenly attempted to get a stereoscopic effect from a single photograph, but in doing so used the convenient device of placing the eyes at right angles to the picture. Using this principle, I made an apparatus with pivoting mirrors which enabled me to throw one of a pair of stereoscopic images into the one eye, and the other into the other, just as Professor Whitman has independently done. I have used this both in combination with weak lenses and without them. I have had such an apparatus in my laboratory for about seven years.

The main advantage of the instrument (its defects are well defined by Professor Whitman) for the psychological student is that it offers a simple means of reversing the perspective without changing the card, throwing the image of the right-hand picture into the right or left eye and correspondingly for the left eye, thus producing a stereoscopic or a pseudoscopic effect; indeed, an intermediate position in which the same view is thrown into each eye is also possible and thus gives the entire range of combinations. The Chicago