

Zoological Society, June 2.—F. DuCane Godman, F.R.S., Vice-President, in the chair.—Mr. Sclater exhibited the skin of an African Monkey of the genus *Cercopithecus*, originally received alive from Mombasa, which he believed to be referable to Stairs's Monkey (*C. stairsi*).—Mr. Sclater also exhibited a series of water-colour drawings of African antelopes by Mr. Caldwell, and a photograph of the gorilla now living in the Society's Gardens, by Mr. Henry Scherren.—A communication was read from Mr. Henry J. Elwes and Mr. Edwards, containing a revision of the European and Asiatic butterflies of the family Hesperidae. The species treated of in this paper were about 450 in number and were divided into about 100 genera.—Mr. Charles Davies Sherborn gave an explanation of the plan he had adopted in his "Index Generum et Specierum Animalium." Mr. Sherborn stated that the absence of any trustworthy lists of the species of particular genera had led him to commence the compilation of an "Index Generum et Specierum Animalium" in 1890. Since that time 130,000 generic and specific names had been recorded in a manuscript which was stored at the British Museum (Natural History). Mr. Sherborn explained in detail the method and plan adopted for the compilation of the work.—Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., read a paper on the dentition of snakes, and added remarks on the evolution of the poison-fangs in this order of reptiles.

PARIS.

Academy of Sciences, June 1.—M. A. Cornu in the chair.—The President announced the loss sustained by the Academy by the death of M. Paul Daubrée, Member of the Section of Mineralogy. A letter from M. Des Cloizeaux, giving a brief account of M. Daubrée's contributions to science, was read by the Secretary.—Note on the observed passages of Mercury across the disc of the sun, and on the question of the existence of inequalities of long period in the mean longitude of the moon, of which the cause is still unknown, and in the rotation of the earth upon its axis, by M. S. Newcomb.—On the laws of induction. Reply to the note of M. Marcel Deprez, by M. A. Potier.—Action of acetylene upon iron, nickel, and cobalt reduced by hydrogen, by MM. H. Moissan and Ch. Moureu. If acetylene, which has been allowed to suddenly impinge upon pyrophoric iron which has been reduced by hydrogen at the lowest possible temperature, the gas is decomposed with incandescence into its constituents. At the same time, owing to the high temperature, condensation takes place, and a liquid hydrocarbon, rich in benzene, is produced. The same phenomenon is produced by pyrophoric nickel and cobalt, and also by platinum black. No compound containing metal can be isolated, and the decomposition appears to be due to physical causes.—Respiratory exchanges, in the case of muscular contractions provoked electrically in animals either fasting, or fed with a diet rich in carbohydrates, by MM. A. Chauveau and F. Laulanie. The experimental results with dogs and rabbits were identical with those already obtained with men.—New experiments on the distribution of velocities in tubes, by M. Bazin. No single expression can be given which will accurately represent the velocity of an air current at any point between the centre and circumference of the tube, the law being very complicated. At a distance from the centre equal to three-fourths of the radius of the tube the velocity was equal to the mean for the whole tube.—On a musical register, by M. A. Rivoire. Description of an instrument for automatically recording the notes struck on a piano.—Density of variable stars of the Algol type, by M. Mériau. Starting with the hypothesis that the variations in the brightness of stars of the Algol type are due to eclipses produced by dark satellites, a formula is developed giving the density in terms of constants that can be experimentally determined.—On entire functions, by M. Hadamard.—On systems in involution of equations of the second order, by M. E. Goursat.—On a differential equation of the first order, by M. Michel Petrovitch.—On the rotation of a variable body, by M. L. Picart.—On the anomaly in the acceleration of gravity at Bordeaux, by M. J. Collet.—On the theory of turbines, pumps, and centrifugal fans, by M. A. Rateau.—On molybdenite and the preparation of molybdenum, by M. M. Guichard. Metallic molybdenum free from sulphur can be obtained by subjecting the mineral molybdenite in a carbon tube to the electric furnace (900 amperes, at 50 volts) for five minutes. The ingot contained about 92 per cent. of molybdenum, 2 per cent. of iron, and 7 per cent. of carbon.—On the methylamines, by M. Delépine. As a means of distinguishing the three methylamines rapidly and with certainty, the formation of the picrates is recommended,

the salts from mono-, di-, and trimethylamine melting respectively at 207°, 156°, and 216°, and differing also in colour and solubility.—On the reaction between aldehydes and phenylhydrazine, by M. H. Causse. Compounds are obtained with acetaldehyde and benzaldehyde which appear to contain one molecule of aldehyde to two of phenylhydrazine, and to be formed without any condensation.—On a new building material from glass refuse, by M. Garchey.—On the influence of certain pathological agents on the bactericidal properties of the blood, by M. E. S. London.—On the slowness of the normal coagulation of the blood in birds, by M. C. Delezenne. Contrary to the generally accepted view, if the blood of birds is taken under experimental conditions similar to those in general use for mammals, the coagulation always takes place with extreme slowness, frequently not commencing until four to six hours after its removal from the artery.—On a new audiometer, and on the general relation between the intensity of the sound and the successive degrees of sensation, by M. Charles Henry.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Books.—Crystallography for Beginners: C. J. Woodward (Simpkin).—Crystals and Apparatus for use with ditto (Simpkin).—Chemistry in Daily Life: Dr. Lassar-Cohn, translated by M. M. P. Muir (Grevel).—The Spas and Mineral Waters of Europe: Dr. H. and F. P. Weber (Smith, Elder).—The Antichrist Legend: W. Bousset, translated by A. H. Keane (Hutchinson).—Lloyd's Natural History. British Birds: R. B. Sharpe, Part 1 (Lloyd).—Théorie Nouvelle de la Vie: Dr. F. Le Dantec (Paris, Alcan).—Stuttering and how to cure it: L. Klindworth (Glasgow, Bauermeister).—A Manual of Botany: Prof. J. R. Green, Vol. 2 (Churchill).—The Pathology of the Contracted Granular Kidney: Sir G. Johnson (Churchill).—Animals at Work and Play: C. J. Cornish (Seeley).—Physikalisch-Chemische Propädeutik, Zweite Hälfte, 1. Liefg. (Leipzig, Engelmann).—Lehrbuch der Vergleichenden Mikroskopischen Anatomie der Wirbeltiere: Dr. A. Oppel, 1. Teil. Der Magen (Jena, Fischer).—Geological Sketch Map of South Africa, and Notes on the Geological Formation of South Africa and its Mineral Resources: F. P. T. Struben (Stanford).

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