of the disastrous effects upon the Museum produced by this water-spout.—On some new experiments relating to the preparation of the diamond, by M. H. Moissan.—Study of the black diamond, by the same. Black diamond, reduced to a very fine state of division, and heated in a stream of oxygen to a temperature about 200° C. below the temperature of combustion of the diamond, gives off a very small amount of carbon dioxide, and the diamond remaining is transparent.—A Spanish truffle and three new truffles from Marocco, by M. Ad. Chatin. The new specimens are described as *Terfezia Mellerionis*, of Laroche, *Terfezia Leonis* (var. *heterospora*), of Laroche, and *Terfezia Boudieri*, of Mazogan.—On the homogeneity of argon and helium, by Prof. W. Ramsay and J. Norman Collie. By fractional diffusion through porous tubes, argon yields two portions, of which the lighter has a density of 19·93, the heavier of 20·01. Similar experiments with helium gave densities of 1·874 and 2·133 for the two extreme portions, results which were confirmed by measurements of the refractive indices by Lord Rayleigh. Both specimens gave spectra which were absolutely identical, and hence the possibility is suggested of there being here a true separation of light molecules from heavy molecules of the same substance.—On the mononitrile of camphoric acid, its anhydride and anilide, by MM. A. Haller and Minguin.—On a method for giving the exact direction of a sound signal, by M. E. Hardy. Two methods are given for effecting this at sea.—Note accompanying two memoirs on thermochemistry, by M. Langlois.—On the error of refraction in geometric levelling, by M. Ch. Lallemand. It is shown that the effect of the refraction of the air, which can generally be neglected or eliminated in triangulation, becomes quite appreciable in levelling, and a formula is developed for introducing the necessary correction.—On the distribution of the displacements in metals subjected to stresses, by M. G. Charpy. The suggestion of M. Hartmann that metals, in spite of their known heterogeneous structure, behave as homogeneous bodies, has been submitted to further experiments, with the result that the displacements vary from point to point, and correspond in all respects with the structure shown micrographically.—On the density and mean specific heat between 0° and 100° of the alloys of iron and antimony, by M. J. Laborde. The numbers found for the specific heats are all greater than those calculated from the assumption of simple mixture.—On the determination of the ratio of the specific heats of gases, by MM. G. Maneuvrier and J. Fournier. The final results are: for air 1·392, for carbon dioxide 1·299, for hydrogen 1·384.—Researches on the relations existing between the radiation of a body and the nature of the surrounding medium, by M. Smoluchowski de Smolan. An experimental study of the formula of Clausius, according to which the emission should be proportional to the square of the refractive index of the medium. The general result is to confirm the law of Clausius.—Cranial endography by means of the Röntgen rays, by MM. Remy and Contremoulins.—Study of the nitrogren and argon of fire-damp, by M. Th. Schlœsing, jun. Specimens of fire-damp collected with suitable precautions from many sources all contained nitrogen, showing a notable amount of argon; the ratio of argon to nitrogen was, within the limits of experimental error, about the same as in air.—On the preparation of selenic acid, by M. R. Metzner. This acid is readily obtained by oxidising dilute solutions of selenious acid with free permanganic acid.—On a new cobaltite, by M. E. Dufau. By heating magnesia and cobalt sesquioxide in the electric furnace a crystallised magnesium cobaltite, $MgCoO_3$ is obtained.—On the solutions of trichloracetic acid, by M. Paul Rivals. A thermochemical study of the dissociation of trichloracetic acid in solution.—On vinyl-trimethylene and ethylidene-trimethylene, by M. G. Gustavson.—On the constitution of pinacoline, by M. Maurice Delacre.—Crystallographic properties of some alkyl-camphors of the aromatic series, by M. J. Minguin.—Formation and etherification of crotonylic alcohol, by M. E. Charon.—On the electrolysis of the fatty acids, by M. J. Hamonet.—On several modes of preparation of the blue nitrosodisulphonic acid and its salts, by M. Paul Sabatier.—New observations on *Clythra quadripunctata*, by M. A. Lécaillon.—Influence of the reaction of the medium upon the activity of the oxidising ferment of mushrooms, by M. E. Bourquelot.—On a cellulose filter, by M. Henri Pottevin. A description of a cellulose filter capable of taking the place of the biscuit porcelain filter. Owing to the cheapness of material, instead of the cleaning process necessary for porcelain, a new disc can be used.—The mechanism of the extension of the blastoderm, and its relation to the eye of the fish, by M. E. Bataillon.—On the presence in the superior laryngeal nerve of secretory and vasculomotor fibres for the mucous membrane of the larynx, by M. E. Hédon.—On the physiological significance of direct cellular division, by MM. E. G. Balbiani and F. Henneguy.—Study of the gizzard in some *Blattidæ* and *Gryllidæ*, by M. Bordas.—The constitution of the phosphates of lime from Tunis, by M. L. Cayeux.

## BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, and SERIALS RECEIVED.

BOOKS.—The Student's Handbook of British Mosses: H. N. Dixon and H. G. Jameson (Eastbourne, Sumfield).—The G. E. R. Co.'s Tourist Guide to the Continent (London).—A Text-Book of Physical Exercises: Dr. A. H. Carter and S. Bott (Macmillan).—La Distillation des Bois: E. Barillot (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—Monthly Current Charts of the Indian Ocean (London).—Catalogue of the Described Diptera from South Asia: F. van der Wulp (Nijhoff, Hague).

PAMPHLETS.—Peabody Institute 29th Annual Report (Baltimore). Symbolism in American Art: F. W. Putnam and C. C. Willoughby (Salem, U.S.A.).

SERIALS.—Astronomical Observations and Researches made at Dunsink, 7th Part (Dublin, Hodges).—Longman's Magazine, August (Longmans).—Chambers's Journal, August (Chambers).—Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society, Vol. 3, No. 2 (Williams).—Proceedings of the Edinburgh Mathematical Society, Vol. xiv. (Williams).—L'Anthropologie, tome vii. No. 3 (Paris, Masson).—Good Words, August (Isbister).—Sunday Magazine, August (Isbister).—Humanitarian, August (Hutchinson).—Contemporary Review, August (Isbister).—National Review, August (Arnold).—Physical Review, Vol. 4, No. 1. (Macmillan).—Bulletin de l'Académie Royale des Sciences de Belgique, 1896, No. 6 (Bruxelles).—Journal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers (Spon).—Journal of the Chemical Society, (Gurney).—Century, August (Macmillan).—Scribner's Magazine, August (Low).—Notes from the Leyden Museum, Vol. xviii. No. 1 (Leyden, Brill).—Fortnightly Review, August (Chapman and Hall).—Westminster Review, August (Warne).—Ornithologist, August (Bale).—Gazetta Chimica Italiana (Rome).—Revue Générale des Sciences, July (Paris).—Memoire della Spettroscopisti Italiani, July (Rome).—Bulletin de la Société d'Encouragement, July (Paris).

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