

oxidising power of laccase to a remarkable extent. The author points out that the presence of minute traces of manganese in plants may be of great physiological importance.—On the fauna of the pools on the eastern coast of Corsica, by M. Louis Roule.—On a disease of orchids caused by the *Glaeosporium macropus*, Sacc., by M. Mangin. After detailing the methods employed in ascertaining the presence of the *Glaeosporium* in the affected plants, measures are suggested for fighting the disease, chiefly the use of β -naphthol.—On the mode of formation of the primary dunes of Gascony, by M. E. Duregne.—On the general course of glacial denudation, by M. Stanislas Meunier.—Experiments showing that the liver destroys dissolved haemoglobin, and that it keeps the iron, by M. Louis Lapicque.—The number of poisonous principles produced by a pathogenic microbe, by M. A. Charrin. The idea is attacked that a specific pathogenic organism produces one specific poisonous principle, its toxin, and experiments are quoted to show that one and the same species of microbe can produce several pathogenic compounds. Thus the pyocyanic bacillus is shown to produce several, easily distinguishable by their pathological effects.—On barley, by M. Balland. Some proximate analyses of barley.—On the dialysis of the alkaline humates, by M. J. Dumont.—Remarks on some properties of the oxydase in wines, by M. Bouffard.—Research on caramel. Possible confusion with coal tar-colours, by M. Antonio J. da Cruz Magalhaes.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, MAY 20.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—Bakerian Lecture.—On the Mechanical Equivalent of Heat: Prof. Osborne Reynolds, F.R.S., and W. H. Moorthy.
 SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 4.30.—Kerman and Persian Beluchistan, with special reference to the Journeys of Alexander the Great and Marco Polo: Captain P. Molesworth Sykes.
 CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—The Theory of Osmotic Pressure and the Hypothesis of Electrolytic Dissociation; Molecular Rotation of Optically Active Salts; Heats of Neutralisation of Acids and Bases in Dilute Aqueous Solution; Holland Crompton.—The Platinum-Silver Alloys: their Solubility in Nitric Acid: John Spiller.—A Comparative Crystallographical Study of the Normal Selenates of Potassium, Rubidium and Caesium: A. E. Tutton.

FRIDAY, MAY 21.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Contact Electricity of Metals: Lord Kelvin.
 SOUTH-EASTERN UNION OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES (Tunbridge Wells), at 3.30.—What can be done to save our Fauna and Flora from unnecessary Destruction?: Rev. J. J. Scargill and A. Rose.—How can the Technical Education Grant assist Local Scientific Societies? S. Atwood and J. W. Tutt.—Local Museums: Practical Observations on Objects and Methods: W. Cole and E. A. Pankhurst.
 EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

SATURDAY, MAY 22.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, at 4.
 GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION.—Excursion to Erit and Crayford. Director: Flaxman C. J. Spurrell. Leave Cannon Street (S. E. R.) at 2.2.
 LONDON GEOLOGICAL FIELD CLASS.—Excursion to Tunbridge Wells. Wealden Beds. Leave Cannon Street, 2.23: arrive Tunbridge Wells, 3.40.
 SOUTH-EASTERN UNION OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES (Tunbridge Wells), at 11.—The Committees of Field Clubs: Prof. G. S. Boulger.—Current Bedding in Clay: Section at New Athletic Ground, Tunbridge Wells: Prof. H. G. Seeley, F.R.S.—Search for Coal in the South-east of England: H. E. Turner and W. Whitaker, F.R.S.—History of the Weald in special reference to the Age of the Plateau Deposit: W. J. Lewis Abbott.

MONDAY, MAY 24.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Design in Lettering: Lewis Foreman Day.
 LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 3.—Anniversary Meeting.

TUESDAY, MAY 25.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Heart and its Work: Dr. E. H. Starling.
 ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.
 ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, at 8.30.—A Quinary System of Notation used in Luchoo: Prof. Basil Hall Chamberlain.—Ancient Measures in Prehistoric Monuments: A. L. Lewis.—Probable Papers: Further Discoveries of Stone Implements in Somaliland: H. W. Seton-Karr.—The Berbers of Morocco: W. B. Harris.—Rock Paintings and Carvings of Australian Aborigines: R. H. Mathews.
 ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, at 8.—The Optical Effects of Intensification: Chapman Jones.—Some Notes on the Correct Rendering of the Colours of Flowers: H. T. Malby.
 ROYAL VICTORIA HALL, at 8.30.—Growth of the Colonies in the Queen's Reign: O'Donnell.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On Augite-Diorites with Micro-Pegmatite in Southern India: T. H. Holland.—The Laccolites of Cutch and their Relation to the other Igneous Masses of the District: Rev. J. F. Blake.
 BRITISH ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION, at 5.
 THURSDAY, MAY 27.
 INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Annual General Meeting.

FRIDAY, MAY 28.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—The Isolation of Fluorine: Prof. H. Moissan.
 PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 5.

SATURDAY, MAY 29.

LONDON GEOLOGICAL FIELD CLASS.—Excursion to Sheerness. Drive to East Church, Hensbrook. London Clay. Leave Holborn Viaduct, 1.25.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, and SERIALS RECEIVED.

BOOKS.—Exercises in Practical Physiology: Dr. A. D. Waller, Part 3 (Longmans).—Milk and its Products: Prof. H. H. Wing (Macmillan).—The Theory of Electricity and Magnetism: Prof. A. G. Webster (Macmillan).—The Elements of Physics: E. L. Nichols and W. S. Franklin, Vol. 3 (Macmillan).—Prehistoric Problems: Dr. R. Munro (Blackwood).—A Great Agricultural Estate: The Duke of Bedford (Murray).—The Localisation of Faults in Electric Light Mains: F. C. Raphael (*Electrician* Company, Ltd.).—The Birds of our Country: H. E. Stewart (Digby).—Handbook for Jamaica for 1897 (Stanford).—Reports from the Laboratory of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, Vol. 6 (Edinburgh, Clay).—Memories of the Months: Sir H. Maxwell (Arnold).—Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture. Accounts of the Trade carried by Rail and River in India, 1895-96, and the Four Preceding Years (Calcutta).—Electromoteurs et Leurs Applications: G. Dumont (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—The Development of the Frog's Egg: Prof. T. H. Morgan (Macmillan).—Flowering Plants: Mrs. A. Bell (Philip).—First Stage Mechanics of Fluids: Dr. G. H. Bryan and F. Rosenberg (Clive).—Social Transformations of the Victorian Age: T. H. S. Escott (Seeley).—Topographische Anatomie des Pferdes: Profs. Ellenberger and Baum, Dritter Teil (Berlin, Parey).—Report on the Geological Structure and Stability of the Hill Slopes around Naini Tal: T. H. Holland (Calcutta).—Leçons sur l'Électricité et le Magnétisme: Prof. E. Mascart, tome deuxième (Paris, Masson).—Essai sur les Éléments de la Mécanique des Particules: H. Majlert, 1^{re} Partie: Statique Particulaire (Neuchâtel, Attinger).
 PAMPHLETS.—Geological Survey of Canada: Report on the Country between Athabasca Lake and Churchill River: J. B. Tyrrell and D. B. Dowling (Ottawa).—Ditto: Report on Explorations in the Labrador Peninsula along the East Main, &c., in 1892, 1893, 1894, and 1895: A. P. Low (Ottawa).—Resultate aus den Beobachtungen des Veränderlichen Sternes η Aquilae: W. J. S. Lockyer (Göttingen).
 SERIALS.—Transactions of the Astronomical and Physical Society of Toronto, 1896 (Toronto).—Palaeozoic Fossils: J. F. Whiteaves, Vol. 3, Part 3 (Ottawa).—Engineering Magazine, May (Tucker).—Proceedings of the Royal Society of Victoria, Vol. ix., new series (Melbourne).—Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society, Vol. liii Part 2, No. 220 (Longmans).—General Index to the First Fifty Volumes of the Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society, Part 2 (Longmans).—Journal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, No. 128, Vol. xxvi. (Spon).—Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India. Palaeontologia Indica, ser. xvi. Vol. 1, Part 1 (Calcutta).—Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India, Vols. xxv. and xxvi. (Calcutta).—History of Mankind: F. Ratzel, translated, Part 19 (Macmillan).—American Naturalist, May (Philadelphia).—Journal of the Franklin Institute, May (Philadelphia).—Psychological Review, May (Macmillan).—Ditto, Psychological Index, No. 3 (Macmillan).—Journal of the Chemical Society, May (Gurney).—English Illustrated Magazine, June (198 Strand).

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