force caused by the near passage of another body moving with great velocity would account for the observed phenomena. I am of the opinion that no forces except those originally resident in the central body itself are essential for the creation of such structures.

As a supplement to my note in NATURE for January 14, 1904, I now wish to offer a very simple theoretical explanation of the manner in which the ejective force becomes so very powerful.

As a result of the decrease in temperature from the centre to the surface of an incandescent mass exposed to the cold of space, the surface-crust finally formed will be punctured at various points by the imprisoned gases, thus also allowing the more refractory matter from the interior to overflow the region immediately surrounding each vent; the increased weight of the locally thickened crust causes the lower opening (of the channel formed) to be depressed below the general level; as the height of the surface-cone increases the simultaneously formed inverted cone is forced deeper and deeper into the regions of greater temperature and pressure, where matter exists in the form of compressed gases. The more easily volatilised materials of the depressed mass will be dissipated, leaving only the more refractory elements to form the inverted cone.

So long as there is a free flow of gaseous matter, the higher the volcanic cone the greater will be the ejective force, and, owing to internal reactions, diametrically opposite vents will be most powerful. We therefore reach, as it seems to me, the theoretical conclusion that *in the act of cooling, an originally incandescent body has the power to create conditions which will enable it to remove a part of its mass, in a finely divided state, to distances which may be far beyond the sphere of its own sensible attraction.*

J. M. SCHAEBERLE.

Ann Arbor, January 8.

On an Alleged New Monkey from the Cameroons.

IN NATURE for October 26, 1905, Dr. H. O. Forbes described, as representing a new species, a monkey (Guenon) from the Cameroons, which he named *Cercopithecus crossi* in compliment to Mr. Cross, of Liverpool, to whom it belonged. The description tallied so closely with that of *C. preussi*, based by Matschie in 1898 upon specimens also from the Cameroons, that I strongly suspected the two species would prove to be identical. That this is the case I have now no hesitation in affirming after examining the type of *C. crossi*, which Mr. Cross has sent to the Zoological Gardens in London.

R. I. POCOCK.

Zoological Society's Gardens, January 17.

Sounding Stones.

IT may be of interest to add to the list of musical stones provided by your correspondents another limestone, viz. the very hard, crystallised, coral rock of the coasts of British East Africa. Among the bizarre forms assumed by these rocks under the erosion of the sea, isolated pillars with projecting arm at the top, like a gallows or an inverted capital "L," are common in places. This horizontal arm in many cases gives a clear musical note when struck with a stone or hammer, being thus a ready suspended natural gong.

CYRIL CROSSLAND.

Broughton in Furness, January 18.

Chinese Names of Colours.

IN NATURE of January 11 (p. 246) Mr. A. H. Crook refers to some colour terms used by Chinese. *Ts'eng* (Cantonese) or *ch'ing* (Pekingese) is a vague Chinese term applied to black, grey, "neutral tint," ocean green, sky colour, blue, &c., but nearly always with a gloss or sheen upon it. The fresh turnip-like pears of China are called in Canton *süt$_0$ li*, or "snow-pears" (the small circle following the *t* indicating the "tone" of the word). Williams's Dictionary of 1878 gives *hsüeh-ch'ing* (Pekingese) or *süt$_0$-ts'eng* (Cantonese) as "a purple colour," and the allusion is evidently to that bluish glassy tinge that frozen snow takes, as seen in glaciers, icebergs, and so on; in short, all "vitreous" or glassy hues, from beer-bottles to mother-of-pearl, are *ts'eng*.

E. H. PARKER.

THE WORK OF THE NATIONAL ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.[1]

CAPTAIN SCOTT is warmly to be congratulated on the two interesting volumes in which he describes the work of the National Antarctic Expedition and gives his conclusions as to its results. The book, naturally dedicated to Sir Clements Markham, is a most valuable contribution to the knowledge of what will probably always be one of the most interesting parts of the Antarctic continent. It is written in a charmingly easy and fluent style; the narrative is modest and frank; and the story is always pleasant reading, from its evidence of the uniform good temper which prevailed throughout the expedition, of Captain Scott's capacity for handling his men, of his sympathetic appreciation of their high endeavour, and of his keen interest in all branches of the work. The book is illustrated by a series of fine photographs, many of which were taken by Lieut. Skelton, and its value is greatly increased by the beautiful sketches of Dr. Wilson.

The story of the expedition is full of incident and adventure, in most of which Captain Scott had a large share, as he exposed himself to its greatest risks. The two main achievements of the expedition are Captain Scott's fine sledge journeys with Dr. Wilson and Lieut. Shackleton to the farthest south, and with Evans and Lashly to the farthest west that was reached in Victoria Land. Both these undertakings were daring and arduous in the extreme. The sledge journey to the south reached the latitude of 82° 16′ 33″ from 77° 51′, and this spirited performance would probably have been even more successful but for the death of the dogs. The journey westward on to the plateau of Victoria Land Captain Scott describes as even more severe than that to the south, and regarding it he says:—"I cannot but believe we came near the limit of possible performance."

The scientific results of the expedition cannot yet be fully stated, as the collections and observations have not been worked out; and we shall have to wait in most cases for the reports of the experts to whom the material has been entrusted. Captain Scott's book contains accounts of the chief work in geography, in vertebrate zoology, and in geology. The Antarctic mammals and birds are described in an interesting chapter by Dr. Wilson, in which the most important contribution is the account of the life-history of the emperor penguin, which was studied on its breeding-grounds by himself and Lieut. Skelton. The volumes contain no technical information about the invertebrates, &c., and it is disappointing to learn that we cannot expect any additions to the deep-sea fauna of the Southern Ocean. The wealth of new material collected by the *Challenger* in its one deep haul in the Antarctic, led to hopes that valuable results would be achieved by the powerful deep-sea equipment of the *Discovery*; but apparently it was very little used, owing to the short time spent at sea, and possibly on account of the limited coal supply. One dredging is referred to at the depth of 610 fathoms, another at 100 fathoms, and a third, also in shallow water, off the great ice-barrier. The invertebrate fauna, of which Mr. Hodgson has already described elsewhere some of the more interesting discoveries, seems to have been chiefly collected under the ice in McMurdo Sound by means of his very ingenious devices.

The principal geological results are stated in a

[1] "The Voyage of the *Discovery*." By Captain R. F. Scott, C.V.O. Vol. i. Pp. xx+556. Vol. ii. Pp. xii+508; with two maps and 272 illustrations. (London: Smith, Elder and Co., 1905.) Price 42s. net.