

VIENNA

Imperial Academy of Sciences, January 20.—The Ministry of Commerce called upon the Academy to appoint a member to arrange the reproduction of the French standard meter, and also forwarded a nautical instrument for the correction of the course of vessels, invented by Carl Zamara.—A note by Prof. G. Hinrichs of Iowa, on the structure of quartz, was communicated by Prof. von Haidinger.—Prof. E. Mach communicated the results of an investigation by M. C. Neumann upon the vibrations of a string under the bow. His results for the most part confirm Helmholtz's theoretical views.—Dr. Boué presented a geographico-geognostic map of the valley of Sutchesa, and remarked upon its peculiarities.—Dr. A. Friedlowsky communicated a memoir on three cases of augmentation of the carpal and tarsal bones in man.—Prof. F. Simony gave a comparative account of the conditions of temperature in the Lakes of Hallstatt, Gmund, and Langbath, at different depths, and Dr. J. Hann presented a memoir on the decrease of temperature with elevation on the surface of the earth.—The table of the meteorological and magnetic observations at the Central Observatory during the month of December last was also communicated.

February 3.—Memoirs were read by Prof. Rochleder "On some colouring matters from Madder," and by M. A. von Miller-Hauenfels on "The dualistic functions," and "On the electrical current which appears to stand in relation to endosmose." Dr. L. J. Fitzinger communicated the second and concluding portion of his "Critical revision of the family of the *Rhinophylli*," in which he treats of the genera *Ariteus*, *Rhinolophus*, *Rhinomyxeteris* and *Aguias*.—"Investigation of the white mustard seed." By Professor H. Will. In place of the myronate of potash found in black mustard seed there is in white mustard seed an analogous body sinalbin which splits up into sugar or sulphocyanogen compound and acid sulphate. The sulphocyanogen compound is not volatile, it contains an oxygenated radicle akrinyl C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>O. The acid sulphate contains in place of potassium sinapisin. The sulphocyanide of akrinyl freed from sulphur and treated with alkali when in the state of nitril yields ammonia and a salt of the acid C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, which melts at 136° C, and is not identical with any known acid of the same formula.

Geological Institution, February 15.—Herr von Hauer in the chair. Prof. von Ettingshausen communicated the results of his study of the fossil flora from the environs of Berlin, Bohemia. Nearly five hundred species have been determined from six beds of different age. The oldest of them—the freshwater-chalk of Kostenblatt and the strata of Kutschlin—correspond with the Aquitanian series; the plastic clay of Priesen, as well as the clay and spherosiderit of Languagey, belong to the middle part of the Miocene formation. The menilites and opales of the Sichrow valley, as well as the shists of Sobrusan, contain the plants of the Oemingen series. Herr Flanenschild pointed out that the existence of large layers of the so-called Alpine chalk (Alpenkreide), the mud of glaciers, which eroded the dolomitic rocks, indicates the existence of old glaciers in the Alm- and Steierling valleys, Upper Austria. This mud consists, therefore, of carbonate of lime and carbonate of magnesia, and, when burnt at a low temperature, gives a good hydraulic cement.—Herr. Ch. Paul exhibited detailed sections of the small mountain range near Homonna, North-eastern Hungary, consisting of different layers of the triassic, rhetic, liassic, jurassic, and cretaceous formations. Of high interest is the discovery of marls with fossils of the *Gault* series, which are so very rare in the eastern Alps and Carpathians.—Herr Stache exhibited geological maps of the environs of Ungvár and Mandak, North-eastern Hungary, which he had surveyed last summer. Trachytes with their tufts, and Carpathian sandstones of Eocene age, are the prevailing formations.

DIARY

THURSDAY, MARCH 10.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—On some Elementary Principles in Animal Mechanics (No. III.): Rev. S. Haughton.—On the Contact of Conics with Surfaces: W. Spottiswoode.—On the Spotted Area of the Sun's Visible Disc from the Commencement of 1832 up to May 1868: W. De la Rue, B. Stewart and B. Loewy.—Tables of the Numerical Values of the Sine-Integral, Cosine-Integral, and Exponential-Integral: J. W. L. Glaisher.  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, at 8.30.—Roman Inscription in the Disney Collection: Mr. H. C. Coote.  
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Dinornis (Part XV.): Professor Owen.—New species of *Ampullaria*: Dr. J. C. Cox.—Birds of Veragua: Mr. O. Salvin.—New birds from the Yantze-kiang: Mr. R. Swinhoe.  
MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 8.  
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Chemistry: Prof. Odling.  
LONDON INSTITUTION, at 7.30.—Swiney Lecture: Dr. Cobbold.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 8.—On Art: Mr. Westmacott.  
QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB, at 8.  
ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Science of Religion: Prof. Max Müller.  
ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, at 3.30.

MONDAY, MARCH 14.

MEDICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Anniversary.  
SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Cantor Lecture: Dr. Paul.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Nervous System: Dr. Rolleston.  
ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On Strange Peculiarities observed by a Religious Sect of Moscovites, called Scopis: Dr. Kopernick and Dr. Barnard Davis.—Phallic Worship: Mr. Hodder Westropp.—Consanguineous Marriages: Mr. George C. Thompson.  
STATISTICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—The Financial System of the Free Church of Scotland: Rev. D. Buchanan.  
PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.  
INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—1. Discussion upon Mr. Fox's paper "On the San Paulo Railway," 2. and if time permits, the following paper will be read, "On the Conditions and the Limits which govern the Proportions of Rotary Fans:" Mr. Robert Briggs.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Surface Decoration: Mr. Pitman.  
ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, at 1.30  
METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 7.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Chemistry: Prof. Odling.  
ROYAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.  
LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—The Flora and Fauna of Round Island: Sir Henry Barkly.—Algae found in the North Atlantic Ocean: Dr. Dickie.  
CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8. ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 4.  
NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, at 7. ANTIQUARIES' SOCIETY, at 8.30.

BOOKS RECEIVED

ENGLISH.—The Bottom of the Sea: B. Z. Sonrel; illustrated. Translated and edited by Elihu Rich (Sampson Low and Marston).—Weapons of War: A history of arms and armour from the earliest periods to the present time: A. Demmin; illustrated. Translated by C. C. Black (Bell and Daldy).—Sketches of Life and Sport in South Eastern Africa: C. Hamilton; illustrated (Chapman and Hall).—The North British Review (Williams and Norgate).—A Search for Winter Sunbeams in the Riviera, Corsica, Algiers, and Spain: S. S. Cox (Sampson Low and Marston).—The Natural History of Man: Rev. J. G. Woods; illustrated (Routledge and Sons).—Our Iron-clad Ships: E. J. Reed (Murray).—Physical Geography: D. T. Ansted.—The Earth's History; or, First Lessons in Geology: D. T. Ansted.—The World we live in; or, First Lessons in Physical Geography: D. T. Ansted (W. H. Allen & Co.).—The Science and Art of Arithmetic: Sonnenschein and Nesbitt (Whittaker and Co.).—Treatise of Medical Electricity: J. Althaus.  
FOREIGN.—Nachrichten der K. Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften, 1869. Petermann's Mittheilungen.—Manuel des Humeurs: F. Papiillon.—Die Parasiten der weiblichen Geschlechtsorgane des Menschen und Einiger Thiere nebst Beiträge: Dr. D. Haussmann.—Archiv für die Landesdurchforschung Böhmen.—Neue Untersuchungen über den elektrisirten Sauerstoff: Dr. G. Meissner.—Lehrbuch zur Bahnbestimmung der Kometen und Planeten: T. Oppolzer.—Beiträge zur Petrographie der plutonischen Gesteine: J. Roth.—Handbuch der Physiologisch- und Pathologisch-chemischen Analyse: F. Hoppe-Seyler.—Chemismus der Pflanzenzelle: Dr. H. Karsten. (Through Williams and Norgate.)

CONTENTS

	PAGE
SCIENCE EDUCATION IN GERMANY. II. THE POLYTECHNIC SCHOOLS. By Prof. H. E. ROEGGE, F.R.S.	475
VON SCHLICHT ON FORAMINIFERA. By H. B. BRADY, F.L.S.	477
ENCKE THE ASTRONOMER. By R. A. PROCTOR, F.R.A.S.	479
OUR BOOK SHELF	480
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:—	
Prismatic Structure in Ice.—Rev. T. G. BONNEY	481
A Probable Cause of Malaria.—J. GAGLIARDI	481
The Motion of a Free Rotating Body.—Prof. J. J. SYLVESTER, F.R.S.	482
"Engrais Complet."—ONLY A CLOUD	482
The Preservation of Mollusca.—J. R. CROTCH	482
Frankland and Düppa on the Action of Sodium on Acetic Ethet.—J. ALFRED WANKLYN	482
Sir W. Thomson and Geological Time.—G. H.	482
Little Gull.—JOHN CORDEAUX	482
THE MICROSCOPIC FAUNA OF THE ENGLISH FEN DISTRICT. (With Illustrations) By G. S. BRADY	483
THE NEW NATURAL SCIENCE SCHOOLS AT RUGBY. (With Illustrations.) By Rev. T. N. HUTCHINSON	485
NOTES	486
ON THE TEMPERATURE AND ANIMAL LIFE OF THE DEEP-SEA. By Dr. W. B. CARPENTER, F.R.S.	489
SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES:—	
LONDON—Royal Society; Geological; Zoological; Chemical; Linnean; Royal Archeological Institute; Anthropological; Royal Geographical; Royal Institution of Great Britain	490-492
CAMBRIDGE—Philosophical	493
DUBLIN—Royal Irish Academy	493
PARIS—Academy of Sciences	493
BERLIN—German Chemical; German Geological	493
VIENNA—Imperial Academy of Sciences; Geological Institution	494
DIARY, BOOKS RECEIVED	494