

Decaisne presented a note by M. A. F. Marlon on the fossil plants of Ronzon in the department of the Haute Loire. The flora of the marly limestones of Ronzon includes only fifteen species belonging to the same number of genera; eleven of the species are said to be new. These belong to the genera *Equisetum*, *Podostachys*, *Myrica*, *Celtis*, *Litsaea*, *Bumelia*, *Myrsine*, *Pistacia*, *Mimosa*, *Echitenium*, and *Ronrocarpum*. The facies of the flora is African or Asiatic.—A note by M. Bleichen on the discovery of *Posidonia minuta* in the Trias of the department of the Gard, and on a deposit of schists containing *Walchia* in the Permian formation of Aveyron, was presented by M. de Verneuil; and a note by M. Sanson on an equine skull from the turbaries of the Somme by M. de Quartrefages. The author of the last-mentioned paper refers the skull obtained by Boucher de Perthes from the ancient turbaries of the Somme to the African variety of the common ass.

January 8.—M. Martin de Brettes presented a memoir on the motion of oblong projectiles in resisting media, and on the explanation of the wounds produced in living creatures by the oblong balls of rifled guns.—M. E. Rolland read a memoir on the effects of variations of work transmitted by machines, and on the means of regulating them.—Three letters from M. Janssen were read, giving an account of the position selected by him at Sholor, in Neilgherry Hills, for the observation of the solar eclipse of Dec. 12, and a brief statement of his results, the latter will be found in another column.—M. S. Meunier read a note on the transition types in meteorites. In this paper the author indicated certain transitions between the constituents of meteorites analogous to those occurring in terrestrial lithology—namely, between lucelite and montrejite, mesminite and canellite, montrejite and lime-riccite, montrejite and stawoopolite, and between aumalite and tadjerite.—A memoir was presented by M. C. A. Vaulson on a relation between capillary actions and densities in saline solutions, in which he showed by a table of results that in nearly all cases the amount of capillary action is dependent on the density of the fluid.—M. H. Sainte-Claire Deville presented a note by MM. Troost and P. Hautefeuille on the action of heat upon the oxy-chlorides of silicium.—M. Berthelot read the conclusion of his memoir on the state of bodies in solutions, which related to persalts of iron.—M. S. de Luca communicated some investigations of a complex alum, obtained from the thermomineral water of the Solfatara of Puzzuoli; it consists of sulphuric acid combined with alumina, ammonia, protoxide and sesquioxide of iron, lime, magnesia, and potass, with traces of soda and manganese.—A note by M. D. Tommasi on the action of iodide of lead upon some metallic acetates was read.—M. Dubrunfaut presented a note on the combustion of carbon in carbonic acid in presence of water, in which he indicated the importance of the presence of aqueous vapour in many phenomena of combustion. M. Dumas spoke in opposition to the views of Dubrunfaut.—M. Pasteur communicated a note by M. J. C. de Seynes on the asserted transformations of Bacteria and Mucedineæ into alcoholic ferments; and M. F. Béchamp a paper on the development of alcoholic and other ferments in fermentescible media, without the direct intervention of albuminoid substances.—M. Boussingault presented a note on saccharine matter which appeared in the leaves of a lime tree.—The author stated that the saccharine fluid observed by him was not, as is generally supposed, the production of *Aphides*, but apparently a morbid secretion of the tree; it was found to be identical in saccharine constitution with the manna from Sinai analysed by Berthelot.—M. C. Dareste read a note in which he described the presence of bodies presenting the characters of starch-grains in the testes of birds, before the appearance of the spermatozooids.—M. Decaisne presented a note by M. J. E. Planchon, on the characters and systematic position of the Chinese spiny elm (*Hemiptelea Davidii*); and M. Daubrée some observations by M. H. Magnan, on two recent notes by M. Cayrol, on "The Lower Cretaceous formation of La Clape and Les Corbières."

BOOKS RECEIVED

ENGLISH.—Text Books of Science; Arithmetic and Mensuration: C. W. Merrifield (Longmans).—The Elements of Plane Geometry, 2nd edition: R. P. Wright (Longmans).—Concerning Spiritualism: Gerald Massey (Burns).—Catalogue of Transactions, &c., Radcliffe Library, Oxford.

AMERICAN.—Approved Plans and Specifications for Ports, Hospitals, &c..—Reports on Barracks and Hospitals, &c.—Elements of Chemistry and Mineralogy, Vol. II.: J. Hinrichs.

DIARY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Investigations of the Currents in the Strait of Gibraltar, made in August 1871, by Capt. Nares, of H.M.S. *Skaarwater*: Admiral Richards, F.R.S.—On the Absolute Direction and Intensity of the Earth's Magnetic Force at Bombay, and its Secular and Annual Variations: C. Chambers, F.R.S.

SOETY OF ANTIQUARIES, at 8.30.—On Neolithic and Savage Implements: A. W. Franks, M.A., and Col. A. H. Lane Fox.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—On the Chemistry of Alkalies and Alkali Manufacture; Prof. Odling, F.R.S.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Anatomy of the American King-Crab (*Limulus polyphemus*, Lat.): Prof. Owen, F.R.S. (Continued.)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—On the new metal Indium: Prof. Odling, F.R.S.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 2.—On the Theatre in Shakespeare's Time: Wm. B. Donne.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21.

SUNDAY LECTURE SOCIETY, at 4.—On King Arthur; the legend and its significance in relation to English life, past and present: Sebastian Evans.

MONDAY, JANUARY 22.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.

VICTORIA INSTITUTE, at 8.—On the Influence of Colloid Matters upon Crystalline Form: Dr W. M. Ord.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 7.—Anniversary Meeting.

LONDON INSTITUTION, at 4. Elementary Chemistry: Prof. Odling, F.R.S.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—On the Circulatory and Nervous Systems: Dr W. Rutherford, F.R.S.E.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Foraminifera of the family Rotalinae (Carpenter) found in the Cretaceous formations, with Notes on their Tertiary and Recent Representatives: Prof. T. Rupert Jones, F.G.S., and W. K. Parker, F.R.S.—On the Infra-Lias in Yorkshire: Rev. J. F. Blake, F.G.S.—Further Notes on the Geology of the Neighbourhood of Malaga: M. D. M. d'Orueta.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—On Improvements in the Process of Coining: Ernest Seyd.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE, at 8.30.—On Excavations at the Site of the Homeric Pergamus: Dr. J. G. Von Hahn.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, 8.30.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—On the Chemistry of Alkalies and Alkali Manufacture: Prof. Odling, F.R.S.

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NOTICE

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