

SCIENCE IN GERMANY

(From a German Correspondent.)

IT is not only due to the quantitative increase of scientific work, but also to the exigencies of the division of labour, that the German serials dedicated to zoological and anatomical research have been augmented by two new ones this year.

The *Morphologisches Jahrbuch*, edited by Carl Gegenbaur, Professor at Heidelberg, unites anatomy and the history of the development of animals in their mutual and intimate relation as animal morphology. It has for its first object the recognition of the intimate relations amongst different degrees of animal organisation, and further, to consider the anatomy of man as illustrated by the knowledge of the construction of lower organisms. This programme evidently excludes all descriptions and one-sided observations which cannot be used for the above purpose. The first number contains papers on the extreme ends of the animal world, viz., Man and Infusoria, and thus illustrates the end in view most perfectly. The *Jahrbuch* will be supplemented annually by a yearly report of the progress of the anatomy of Vertebrata. This serial appears quarterly in numbers of from 6 to 10 sheets of text, with plates, at the price of from 6 to 9 marks.

Zeitschrift für Anatomie und Entwicklungsgeschichte ("Journal of Anatomy and History of Development"), edited by W. His and W. Braune, Professors of Anatomy at the University of Leipzig. The principal object of this new serial is to be the knowledge of the human body; but papers will also be received which touch upon this theme from a somewhat more distant point of view. At the same time attention will also be turned to the practical side of this subject as well as the theoretical, and materials will be offered to the medical man which will be of immediate use to him in his sphere of action. The double number published of this serial shows that its programme has very wide limits and will eventually be of interest to the zoologist and anatomist, as well as to the practical physician. A number of this serial will be published every two months, containing about five sheets of text and five plates, at the price of from 6 to 8 marks.

NOTES

THE Local Secretaries of the Bristol Meeting of the British Association are doing all in their power to make it in every way a success, and to secure the comfort and enjoyment of those members who may attend; and we think we may promise all who do a pleasant time of it. Although the railway companies have obdurately refused to grant any special concessions to those who will attend the Bristol Meeting, we have reason to believe that the usual complaints as to hotel charges will not have to be made; all the principal hotels have given assurance that their tariffs will not be raised, except in the case of beds, the charge for which, quite naturally, will be slightly increased. There are many places of scientific as well as general interest in and around Bristol; and the Bristol Museum, one of the best provincial collections in the kingdom, will be temporarily enlarged for the occasion. Excursions to various places will be arranged, and the Mayor and inhabitants of Bath have signified their wish to receive a visit from the Association. At the *soirée* on August 26 the Bristol Microscopical Society, assisted by the Naturalists' Society and the Bath Microscopical Society, has undertaken to give a systematic microscopic demonstration of the natural history of the neighbourhood; a novel feature will be the number of living objects which will be exhibited. At the second *soirée*, Aug. 31, a number of objects of great scientific interest will be exhibited. A special Guide Book is being

compiled, and a very useful map of the country for many miles round Bristol has been prepared.

THE section of the Eclipse Expedition which went to Camorta returned last week. No detailed news has been received from the Siam party.

AT its last private sitting, the Paris Academy of Sciences was apprised by its Administrative Commission that the expense for the several Transit of Venus expeditions had exceeded by 80,000 francs the sum granted by the Government. A supplementary credit will be asked for from the Versailles Assembly; and M. Leverrier proposed to offer to the Government the instruments used by the several expeditions, which now belong to the Academy. These 6-inch and 8-inch refractors are large enough to be utilised in the establishment of local observatories in several provincial towns of France and Algiers. The motion was unanimously accepted on condition that the said instruments should be lent to the Academy for the Transit expeditions of 1882.

THE number of Prof. Huxley's students in Edinburgh University now amounts to upwards of 350.

THE gentlemen whose names we mentioned in a previous number (vol. xi. p. 497), were, at the annual election meeting of the Royal Society last Thursday, elected Fellows.

THE Norwegian Government has granted a credit of 4,000*l.* for an expedition to be sent out next year under the scientific direction of Dr. Mohn, for the exploration of the sea between Iceland, the Faroe Islands, Spitzbergen, and Jan Mayen. The commander of this expedition will be Capt. Carr Wile, of the Royal Norwegian Navy, who is now in England gathering information as to the work done by the *Challenger*.

WE take the following from the *Academy*:—Under the title of the Belgian Society of Dredging and Marine Exploration, a society has been formed for the systematic exploration of the North Sea. The annual subscription is to be 15 francs. The materials as collected are to be submitted to various scientific men who have made the different departments their special study, and are afterwards to go to form a central collection accessible to all the members. Duplicate specimens not required for this purpose are to be sold each year at one of the meetings of the Society. The circular which has been issued suggests that, by means of such a society, Belgium may be able to contribute its share to the advancement of that branch of science for which so much has been done by our own countrymen. We need not say that we wish it every success.

WE are glad to learn that Capt. Hoffmeyer, director of the Royal Danish Meteorological Institute at Copenhagen, intends to continue the publication of his daily Synoptic Meteorological Charts for the third quarter, June to August 1874. The charts are constructed from every available source for the region embraced, viz., from about lat. 30° to 70° N., and from long. 40° W. to 40° E. of Paris. The cost of subscription in this country is 12*s.* 6*d.* for the three months, but as only a limited number is printed, application should be made at once to Mr. R. H. Scott, director of the Meteorological Office, 116, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

WE understand that Prof. Boyd Dawkins, of Owens College, leaves this week for Sydney, *via* the Suez Canal. After conducting a geological exploration in Australia, he intends returning by San Francisco, reaching England in October, thus making the circuit of the world in about 120 days.

AT its last sitting the Council of the Paris Observatory passed resolutions relating to the observation of intra-Mercurial planets and the determination of the velocity of light by the satellites