

on these several branches are noticed in greater or less detail, and there is appended an ample "Bibliography of Anthropology, 1885," which is arranged in alphabetical order, and which will be found most useful for purposes of general reference. It includes not only independent works and memoirs, but also special papers bearing on the subject, which have been contributed in the specified period to various English, American, French, German, and other scientific journals. Amongst the essays more fully noticed are M. Gabriel de Mortillet's work on "The Precursor of Man," advancing the theory that the flints of Thenay were the workmanship, not of man as fully developed, but of his immediate predecessor, the anthropopithecus; Dr. Lissauer's paper on human craniology, introducing the sagittal suture as a new element in obtaining anthropological measurements; Dr. Hermann Welcker's treatise on the capacity of the cranium in connection with the three diameters, with classifications of races according to their skull capacity; Dr. Topinard's masterly work on genera' anthropology, from which copious extracts are made; Dr. Otto Stoll's contribution to the comparative philology of Central America, embodying a scientific classification of the eighteen languages still current in Guatemala. Here the Maya family is specially dealt with and divided into four distinct groups: Zental (Chendal), Pokonchi, Quiché, and Marne. It is incidentally mentioned that in 1885 the Woman's Anthropological Society was organised in Washington under the presidentship of Mrs. Tilly Stevenson. The object of this association is stated to be "to conduct investigations to which the avenues are especially open to women, and to encourage the sex in the prosecution of scientific work."

THE catalogue of the Library of the Chemical Society, arranged according to subjects with indexes containing authors' names and subjects, will be useful to chemists.

VOL. I. of "Studies from the Biological Laboratories of the Owens College" (Manchester: Cornish) is mainly a reprint of papers that have appeared in various journals.

WE have received the last (19th) Report of the Peabody Institute of Baltimore. There is no marked advance over past years in any department, but all have been prosperous and the results attained have been satisfactory. The attendance at the courses of lectures was exceptionally large, but the use of the library has been somewhat reduced owing to the opening of another free public library in Baltimore. Amongst the lectures during the year were courses on Arctic Explorations and Life in the Arctic Regions, on Mexico, Ancient and Modern, on the Mound Builders of Ohio, and on the Poetry of Science.

MR. C. G. ROCKWOOD, jun., of Princeton, N.J., writes that the shock of earthquake at Sandy Hook, New York, of June 11, noticed in NATURE of June 17 (p. 153) is an error. The tremor which was felt in that vicinity at the time stated, and which was at first reported as an earthquake, was afterwards traced to the firing of heavy guns on board the U.S.S. *Funiata*, at that time approaching Sandy Hook.

THE additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens during the past week include a White-handed Capuchin (*Cebus hypoleucus*) from Brazil, presented by Madam Sangiorgi; a Levaillant's Cynictis (*Cynictis penicillata* ♂), five Suricates (*Suricata tetradactyla* ♂ ♂ ♀ ♀ ♀), two Triangular Spotted Pigeons (*Columba guinea*), three Vinaceous Turtle Doves (*Turtur vinaceus*), two Cape Turtle Doves (*Turtur capicola*) from South Africa, presented by Mr. R. A. Fairclough; two Red Foxes (*Canis fulvus* ♂ ♀) from North America, presented by Messrs. Enson, Weber, and Co.; a Masked Paradoxure (*Paradoxurus larvatus*) from Hong Kong, presented by Mr. J. Orange; five Forster's Milvagos (*Milvago australis*) from the Fal-land Islands, presented by Mr. James Moore; a Tawny Owl (*Syrnium aluco*),

British, presented by Master C. G. Gregory; five Common Toads (*Bufo vulgaris*) from the South of France, presented by Mrs. F. Walker; a King Vulture (*Gypagus papa*) from Brazil, deposited; three Lions (*Felis leo* ♂ ♀ ♀) from Africa, a Grey Squirrel (*Sciurus cinereus*), a Mink (*Putorius vison*), three Hudson's Bay Squirrels (*Sciurus hudsonius*), a Virginian Eagle Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) from North America, purchased; two Mule Deer (*Cariacus macrotis* ♂ ♂), born in the Gardens.

ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENA FOR THE WEEK 1886 AUGUST 1-7

(FOR the reckoning of time the civil day, commencing at Greenwich mean midnight, counting the hours on to 24, is here employed.)

At Greenwich on August 1

Sun rises, 4h. 26m.; souths, 12h. 6m. 49s.; sets, 19h. 46m.; decl. on meridian, 17° 59' N.: Sidereal Time at Sunset, 16h. 27m.

Moon (one day after New) rises, 5h. 59m.; souths, 13h. 19m.; sets, 20h. 26m.; decl. on meridian, 11° 23' N.

Planet	Rises h. m.	Souths h. m.	Sets h. m.	Decl. on meridian
Mercury ...	6 43	13 26	20 9	7 52 N.
Venus ...	1 45	9 54	18 3	22 29 N.
Mars ...	10 55	16 23	21 51	7 0 S.
Jupiter ...	9 27	15 31	21 35	0 5 N.
Saturn ...	2 21	10 28	18 35	22 10 N.

Occultations of Stars by the Moon (visible at Greenwich)

Aug.	Star	Mag.	Disap.	Reap.	Corresponding angles from vertex to right for inverted image
5 ...	95 Virginis	6	21 54	22 53	108 297
5 ...	94 Virginis	6	22 3	near approach	202 —

Aug. h. m. Mercury stationary.  
1 ... 15 ...

Variable Stars

Star	R.A.	Decl.	h. m.
	h. m.		
U Cephei ...	0 52.2	81 16 N.	Aug. 2, 22 30 m
λ Tauri ...	3 54.4	12 10 N.	3, 22 12 m
U Monocerotis ...	7 25.4	9 32 S.	6, M
S Virginis ...	13 27.0	6 37 S.	1, m
V Coronæ ...	15 45.5	39 55 N.	5, M
U Ophiuchi ...	17 10.8	1 20 N.	2, 0 38 m
R Scuti ...	18 41.4	5 50 S.	1, M
η Aquilæ ...	19 46.7	0 43 N.	5, 21 30 m
δ Cephei ...	22 24.9	57 50 N.	4, 0 0 m

M signifies maximum; m minimum.

Meteor Showers

Showers have been observed at this season from the following radiant:—The *Andromedes* (I.), from R.A. 8°, Decl. 36° N.; from Camelopardus, R.A. 12°, Decl. 70° N.; near η Persei (the *Perseids*), R.A. 45°, Decl. 56° N.; near η Herculis, R.A. 254°, Decl. 37° N.; near λ Aquarii, R.A. 342°, Decl. 9° S.; from Lacerta, R.A. 342°, Decl. 40° N.; and one near Fomalhaut, R.A. 342°, Decl. 34° S.

Stars with Remarkable Spectra

Name of Star	R.A. 1886°	Decl. 1886°	Type of spectrum
	h. m. s.	° ' "	
D.M. + 44° 3877 ...	21 31 42	44 51.9 N.	III.
249a Schjellerup ...	21 37 13	34 59.4 N.	IV.
μ Cephei ...	21 40 1	58 15.4 N.	III.
254 Schjellerup ...	21 40 41	2 44.4 S.	III.
258 Schjellerup ...	21 59 1	27 47.8 N.	III.
18 Cephei ...	22 0 26	62 33.8 N.	III.
D.M. + 56° 2821 ...	22 34 8	56 12.2 N.	III.
B Pegasi ...	22 58 14	27 27.8 N.	III.

THE VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN NEW ZEALAND

FURTHER details have been received of the volcanic eruption in the Hot Lake district of New Zealand, which has been the scene of a terrible and unexpected catastrophe which