

character after coming into residence has at last been accomplished. The arrangement, which comes into force with the beginning of this year, is that candidates for degrees in mathematics and natural science take up responsions (or some equivalent examination at school) like other people, but by passing in one extra subject they are excused the second classical examination, in preparing for which they used to waste a good part of their first year of residence. The extra subjects from which candidates may choose include Greek, Latin, French, and German authors, Bacon's "Novum Organum," and the elements of logic. This alteration will be an undoubted benefit to science men, for, as the new examination involves no preliminary residence and occurs four times a year, they can proceed at once to take up the subject which they have chosen for their final schools.

The following courses of lectures and practical classes are announced for this term:—

Prof. Pritchard is to lecture at the Observatory on "Planetary Theory" and on "Astronomical Instruments and Methods," and offers practical instruction. Prof. Bartholomew Price lectures at the Museum on "Optics."

At the Clarendon Laboratory Prof. Clifton continues his course on "Electricity," and Mr. Walker lectures on "Double Refraction treated Mathematically." The practical work remains in the hands of the Professor, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Selby. Sir John Conroy, who has undertaken Mr. H. B. Dixon's work at Balliol and Trinity, lectures on "Elementary Electricity."

In the Chemical department Prof. Olling will lecture on the "Benzoic Compounds"; Mr. Fischer and Mr. Watts continue their systematic courses on "Inorganic" and "Organic Chemistry" respectively. Mr. C. J. Baker and Mr. Marsh assist in the laboratory teaching. In Mr. Vernon Harcourt's laboratory at Christ Church and in the Balliol Laboratory the usual work is to be carried on.

The arrangements in the department of Morphology have been somewhat disturbed by the appointment of Mr. Baldwin Spencer to the Biology Professorship at Melbourne. Prof. Moseley is to lecture on the "Comparative Anatomy of the Vertebrata," and is to have Mr. G. C. Bourne as Assistant Lecturer and Demonstrator. Mr. Barclay Thompson lectures on the "Osteology and Distribution of the Ichthyopsida."

In the new Physiological Laboratory, Prof. Burdon Sanderson lectures on the "Physiology of the Nervous System," Mr. Dixey on "Histology," and Mr. Buckmaster gives an elementary course of Physiology for the newly-organised preliminary examination. Practical instruction is given in Physiology by Mr. Gotch, in Histology by Mr. Dixey, and in Physiological Chemistry by Mr. Haldane.

Quite a number of men are beginning to read for the new Medical School. The dissecting-room is under the charge of Mr. Arthur Thomson, who lectures on the "Digestive System."

Prof. Prestwich is to lecture chiefly on "Tertiary and Quaternary Geology," including the Glacial period and questions relating to the antiquity of man. Prof. Westwood lectures on the "Arthropoda."

At the Botanic Garden, Prof. Bayley Balfour lectures on "Vegetable Morphology and Physiology," and has both elementary and advanced instruction in practical Botany.

The Pitt-Rivers Anthropological Collection is now so far arranged that the formal opening will probably take place this term. All the cases on the ground floor of the new building have been arranged by Mr. Balfour. Dr. Tylor is to lecture on the "Development of Arts" as illustrated by the collection.

Next week the annual examination for a Radcliffe Travelling Fellowship begins.

#### SCIENTIFIC SERIALS

*Bulletins de la Société d'Anthropologie de Paris*, tome 9ème, 3ème fascic. 1886.—On the relations between the organs of touch and smell, by Dr. Fauvelle. In this paper the author considers the proposition advanced by M. Pozzi that the attitude of an animal is always in accord with the exercise of its predominant organ of sense. On this assumption the biped station would be the consequence of the predominance of vision over smell, and the attitude of quadrupeds the result of the relatively higher development of their sense of smell. In refutation of this view the writer argues that the relations between the organs of sight and smell in bipeds and quadrupeds are the result, rather than the cause, of their different stations, while he shows that wherever in the animal series the organs of sight would seem to

have lost their importance in proportion to the development of the sense of smell the latter is aided by delicate organs of touch situated on those parts of the body which form its anterior side when moving forward. Thus in the vertebrates all the organs of the senses are situated at the cephalic extremity of the body.—On a woman with a tail. The case, reported by M. Melikoff, was observed by Dr. Eliséeff, of St. Petersburg, author of an interesting work on men with tails. According to the statement of the woman, who suffered great pain from her caudal appendage, a similar abnormality had been observed in several female members of her family, in all of whom it had appeared between the ages of 12 and 17 years. Dr. Eliséeff refers this formation to embryogenic causes, such as an arrest of development in the fœtus, and observes that such cases are more frequent in males than in females, the latter, according to him, presenting a much more advanced corporeal development than men.—A case of double uterus, by Dr. Landowski.—On short-tailed dogs, by M. Duval.—Observations on the crania of several insane subjects, by M. Manouvrier.—On the weight of Gambetta's brain, by M. Duval. This paper, and the discussion to which it gave rise, are especially interesting from the new light which they throw on the assumed relations between the large volume of the brain and intellectual capacity, the weight of Gambetta's being only 1160 grammes, or, according to M. Duval, 1246 after making all possible allowance for accidental diminution by faulty methods of preparation, while the mean for persons not gifted with more than ordinary intelligence is 1360 grammes.—On a new variation of the ossa wormiana, by M. Manouvrier.—A case of ptilosis in a young Laotian girl, by Dr. Fauvelle.—On acclimatisation in reference to French colonisation, by Dr. Fauvelle.—On the anthropological characteristics of the Indo-Chinese peoples, by Dr. Maurel.—On the origin of the bronze and tin of prehistoric times, by Mme. Clémence Royer. The writer believes that Europe supplied the sources whence bronze implements were fabricated by early man, while M. Mortillet considers that both the material and the production of the weapons, ornaments, and other objects of this kind which belong to prehistoric times must be referred to In lia and the Far East.—Enumeration of the megalithic remains of Nièvre, by Dr. Jacquinet. The number of such remains in the whole of France, as certified by official inquiry, amounts to 6310, of which thirty-five belong to Nièvre. Among these special interest attaches to the horizontal slabs of Saint Agnan, which Dr. Jacquinet considers to have been altars for human sacrifices.—Summary of the answers given by New Caledonians to the interrogatories of the Society of Sociology and Ethnography, by M. Moncelon. These answers supply interesting materials for the ethnographic study of these races, and show the importance of following a definite plan in pursuing such inquiries.—Anthropological observations of the Khmer tribes of Cambodia, by Dr. Maurel. The writer, who supplies numerous anthropometric measurements, believes that these peoples belong to the Mongolian group.

*Rendiconti del Reale Istituto Lombardo*, November 11, 1886.—Meteorological observations made at the Brera Observatory, Milan, during the months of August and September.

November 25.—Results of the experiments carried out at the experimental farm of the Royal Milanese School of Agriculture against the mildew of the grape-vine, by Prof. Gaetano Cantoni. Of the various methods of treatment here described, the preparation of a sulphate of copper dissolved in water in the proportion of three per thousand is shown to be the most efficacious. The analysis of the wines obtained from crops so treated shows that they usually contain a scarcely appreciable quantity of the copper.

*Bulletin de l'Académie des Sciences de St. Petersbourg*, tome xxi. No. 2.—Report on a memoir by M. Harzei on a special case of the problem of the three bodies, by O. Backlund. It is considered a most valuable work, being the first attempt to apply the method of Prof. Gylden.—New transcription of the Castrén's Koibal dictionary and Koibal poetry, made by M. Katanoff (who is himself of Sagai origin), from the Abakan, with a preface by W. Radloff.—Photometric researches on the diffusion of light, by O. Chwolson, being numerical data of new experiments mathematically treated.—Hydrological researches, xlv. to xlvii., by C. Schmidt.—Chemical analyses of water from lakes in North-west Mongolia and in North Tibet.—On a differential equation, by B. Ichmenetzky.