Upon the initial cells of the ovary in fresh-water Hydræ, by M. Joannes Chatin.—Note on a new putrefaction ptomaine, obtained by the culture of *Bacterium allii*, by Mr. A. B. Griffiths. The author gives analyses of an alkaloid, produced by the decomposition of albuminoids by this organism, showing it to belong to the hydropyridine series, and to possess the formula of hydrocoridine, $C_{10}H_{17}N$.—On the chromogenous functions of the pyocyanic bacillus, by M. C. Gessard.—Fossil Radiolarians inclosed in albite crystals, by M. A. Issel. The author concludes from the data given—(1) that a sedimentary fossiliferous rock has become crystalline and rich in plagioclastic crystals, without the stratification being sensibly altered; (2) that this change has been produced in a Tertiary formation; (3) that a hydrothermal action is indicated.—A contribution to the history of chrome-iron, by M. Stanislas Meunier.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

LONDON.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—On a Second Case of the Occurrence of Silver in Volcanic Dust—namely, in that thrown out in the Eruption of Tunguragua, in the Andes of Ecuador, January 11, 1886: Prof. J. W. Mallet, F.R.S.—On the Tension of Recently-formed Liquid Surfaces: Lord Rayleigh, Sec.R.S.—(1) On the Development of the Ciliary or Motor Oculi Ganglion; (2) The Cranial Nerves of the Torpedo (Preliminary Note): Prof. J. C. Ewart.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Production of Seed in some Varieties of the Common Sugar-Cane (Saccharum officinarum): D. Morris.—An Investigation into the True Nature of Callus; Part 1, the Vegetable Marrow, and Ballia callitricha: Spencer Moore.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Early Developments of the Forms of Instrumental Music: Frederick Niecks.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—On Bertrand's Refractometer: Prof. S. P. Thompson.

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, at 8.—On some Pleistocene (non-Marine) Mollusca of the London District: B. B. Woodward.—Notes on some Pleistocene Sections, in and near London: W. J. Lewis Abbott.—Note on a Curious Appearance produced by the Natural Bisection of some Spherical Concretions in a Yoredale Stone Quarry near Leek: Dr. Wheelton Hind.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 7.30.—Telephonic Switching: C. H. Wordingham.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Electrical Relations of the Brain and Spinal Cord: Francis Gotch.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, at 3.45.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Electricity and Magnetism: Right Hon Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9.

SUNDAY LECTURE SOCIETY, at 4.—Pasteur, and his Discoveries (with Oxyhydrogen Lantern Illustrations): Sir Henry E. Roscoe, M.P., F.R.S.

MONDAY, MARCH 10.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—On Lieut. H. B. Vaughan's Recent Journey in Eastern Persia: Major-General Sir Frederic J. Goldsmid, K.C.S.I.

VICTORIA INSTITUTE, at 8.—On the Monism, Pantheism, and Dualism of Brahmanical and Zoroastrian Philosophers: Sir M. Monier-Williams, K.C.I.E.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—The Claims of the British School of Painting to a Thorough Representation in the National Gallery: James Orrock.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, at 8.30.—Exhibition of the Skull of a Carib, from a Cave in Jamaica: Prof. Flower, C.B., F.R.S.—Manners, Customs, Superstitions, and Religions of South African Tribes: Rev. James Macdonald.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Hawksbury Bridge, New South Wales: C. O. Burge.—The Erection of the Dufferin Bridge over the Ganges at Benares: F. T. G. Walton.—The New Blackfriars Bridge on the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway: G. E. W. Cruttwell. (Discussion.)

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Post-Darwinian Period: Prof. G. J. Romanes, F.R.S.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On a Deep Channel of Drift in the Valley of the Cam, Essex: W. Whitaker, F.R.S.—On the Monian and Basal Cambrian Rocks of Shropshire: Prof. J. F. Blake.—On a Crocodilian Jaw from the Oxford Clay of Peterborough: R. Lydekker.—On Two New Species of Labyrinthodonts: R. Lydekker.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—The Chemin de Fer Glissant, or Sliding Railway: Sir Douglas Galton, K.C.B., F.R.S.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Some Groups of Circles connected with Three given Circles: R. Lachlan.—Perfect Numbers: Major P. A. MacMahon, R.A.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 5.—Agriculture and the State in India: W. R. Robertson.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Theory of Armature Reactions in Dynamos and Motors: James Swinburne.—Some Points in Dynamo and Motor Design: W. B. Esson. (Discussion.)

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Early Development of the Forms of Instrumental Music (with Musical Illustrations): Frederick Niecks.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—The Glow of Phosphorus: Prof. T. E. Thorpe, F.R.S.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 3.—The Atmosphere: Prof. Vivian Lewes.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Electricity and Magnetism: Right Hon. Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, and SERIALS RECEIVED.

Prodromus Faunæ Mediterraneæ, Part 2: J. V. Carus (Stuttgart, Koch).—The Elements of Laboratory Work: A. G. Earl (Longmans).—History of Botany (1530–1860): J. von Sachs; translated by H. E. F. Garnsey; revised by I. B. Balfour (Clarendon Press).—Traité Encyclopédique de Photographie, neuv. fasc.: C. Fabre (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—A Syllabus of Elementary Dynamics: Prof. W. N. Stocker (Macmillan).—Synoptical Tables of Inorganic and Organic Chemistry: C. J. Leaper (Gill).—The Growth of Capital: R. Giffen (Bell).—Coal Gas as a Fuel: T. Fletcher (Warrington, Mackie).—The Zoological Record for 1888 (Gurney and Jackson).—An Elementary Treatise on Light and Heat, 2nd edition: Rev. F. W. Aveling (Relfe).—Demoids: J. B. Sutton (Baillière).—The Railways of Scotland: W. M. Ackworth (Murray).—Electrical Engineering: W. Slingo and A. Brooker (Longmans).—Un Viaggio a Nias: E. Modigliani (Milano, Fratelli Treves).—Transactions of the Astronomical Observatory of Yale University, vol. i. Part 2 (New Haven).—Cycles of Drought and Good Seasons in South Africa: D. E. Hutchins (Wesley).—How to Know Grapes by the Leaves: A. N. M'Alpine (Edinburgh, Douglas).—Boilers, Marine and Land, 2nd edition: T. W. Traill (Griffin).—Four-Figure Mathematical Tables, 2nd edition: J. T. Bottomley (Macmillan).—The Cultivated Oranges and Lemons, &c., of India and Ceylon, text and plates: Dr. E. Bonavia (Allen).—Elementary Manual of Magnetism and Electricity, Part 2: Prof. Jamieson (Griffin).—Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science, February (Churchill).—Zeitschrift für Wissenschaftliche Zoologie, 49 Band, 3 Heft (Williams and Norgate).—Journal of the Royal Microscopical Society, 1889, Part 6*a*, 1890. Part 1 (Williams and Norgate).—Studies from the Biological Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University, vol. 4, No. 6 (Baltimore).—Transactions and Proceedings of the Botanical Society, vol. xvii. Part 3 (Edinburgh).—Annual Report of the Canadian Institute, Session 1888–89 (Toronto).

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