rice, egg, &c., on a hard wood table, and taking a pencil from his pocket and collecting the eatables together, close to the edge of the gauze cover, he lifted its edge, and with the pencil point inserted, began sharply tapping among the rice débris. The two chicks at once ran over to that place and bent over, watching the tapping, and to our astonishment they began tapping with their little beaks the same way, and before long had begun to feed on their own account, just as the "Babu" had predicted; and after that lesson we had no trouble.

As I happen to be writing, I may mention that our land lizard (3 feet 6 inches to 4 feet 6 inches total length, name unknown to me) has begun calling in the early dawn and dusk at evening. It is silent during the day and night.

From the bearings taken, it can be heard plainly at a mile in forest, and often five or six calling at once in different directions. The native Asamese name is "Gui," which is precisely the sound it makes; by the old spelling it is "Gooee." S. E. PEAL.

Sibsagar, Asam, April 4.

The Bagdad Date-mark.

THERE will be found in Grattan Geary's "Through Asiatic Turkey" all about the date-mark—a mysterious and troublesome excoriation, coming only once, but which lasts a year, leaving an ugly scar the size and outline of the fruit—visitors for any length of time at Bagdad seldom, and residents never, escape. It is also known at Aleppo and other places, but is worst in Bagdad, almost every native being marked. Even nitric acid has been found to have little effect upon it. I lately spent forty-four days, off and on, at Bagdad, and imagined I had escaped; not so, however, as it proved six weeks after my return to India. But the mark yielded forthwith, and before any damage was done, to hyposulphite of soda, which does so much "fixing" for every amateur photographer, and seemed worth trying. The fact may be usefully mentioned in the interest of Mesopotamian explorers who do not want to be date-marked as a memento; but it is to physiologists they must look for an explanation.

Bombay, April 12. A. T. FRASER.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY SELECTED CANDIDATES.

THE following are the names and qualifications of the fifteen candidates recommended by the Council of the Royal Society, on Thursday last, for election into the Society.

J. WOLFE BARRY,

C.B., Civil Engineer. Vice-President of the Institution of Civil Engineers. Is eminently distinguished in his profession, and has designed and executed many works of national importance, which include the Tower Bridge, opened by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, 1894; the City Terminus extension of the Charing Cross Railway, the Inner Circle Railway, and the Barry Dock. Has served as a member of the following Royal and Departmental Commissions:—Royal Commission on Irish Public Works, 1887; Highlands and Islands of Scotland Commission, 1890; Commission on the River Ribble, 1891; Thames Navigation Commission, 1894. Member de la Commission Consultative des Travaux de la Campagnie Universelle du Canal Maritime de Suez. Is the author of many papers, mainly in reference to engineering works, which have been published in the *Transactions of the Institution of Civil Engineers* and elsewhere. Is the author of several professional treatises, among which the following are the more important: "The Barry Dock" (British Association Report, 1888): "Railway Appliances," "Railways and Locomotives," published in conjunction with Sir F. Bramwell, Bart.

ALFRED GIBBS BOURNE,

D.Sc. (Lond.), Professor of Biology in the Presidency College, Madras. Fellow of University College, London. For many years engaged in teaching and in researches upon Comparative Anatomy and Embryology, especially of Invertebrata. Especially known to comparative anatomists for his discoveries in the structure of leeches, and as discoverer of the hydroid phase of Limnocodium, also of two remarkable new genera of Chœtopod worms, described by him as Haplobranchus and Chœtobranchus. Author of the following, as well as several other memoirs:—"On the Structure of the Nephridia of the Medicinal Leech" (*Quart. Journ. Micros. Sci.*, 1880); "Contributions to the Anatomy of the Hirudinea" (*ibid.*, 1884); "On the Hydroid Form of Limnocodium" (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1884); "On the Supposed Communication of the Vascular System with the Exterior in Pleurobranchus" (*Quart. Journ. Micros. Sci.*, 1885). Since he has been in India, Prof. Bourne has sent home important researches on Indian Earthworms, on Chœtobranchus (a new naidiform worm), on a new Protozoon of the genus Pelomyxa, with observations on the structure of protoplasm, and some valuable experimental researches on the suicide of Scorpions (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1889).

GEORGE HARTLEY BRYAN,

M.A., Fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge. Lecturer (on Thermodynamics, &c.) on the University list. Fifth Wrangler, 1886; Class I, Division 1, 1887; bracketed with Senior Wrangler, Smith's Prize, 1888, for the Essay "On the Curves on a Rotating Spheroid of Finite Ellipticity" (*Phil. Trans.*, 1889 A). Author of the following papers:—"On the Stability of a Rotating Spheroid of Perfect Fluid" (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, vol. xlvii.); "On the Stability of Elastic Systems"; "Waves on a Viscous Rotating Cylinder" (*Proc. Camb. Phil. Soc.*, vol. vi.); and several others in *Phil. Mag.*, *Proc. Lond. Math. Soc.*, and *Proc. Camb. Phil. Soc.*, &c. Also joint author, with Mr. Larmor, of the Report on Thermodynamics, published in the British Association Reports, 1891.

JOHN ELIOT,

M.A. (Cantab.), Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India. Late Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal. Was Second Wrangler and Smith's Prizeman, 1869. Mr. Eliot, as Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal, and subsequently as Head of the Meteorological Department of India, has made many important additions to the physical data of Indian meteorology, and has done much in their utilisation, and in the improvement of the administration of the department of which he is now the head. Under him have been carried out the publication of Daily Weather Charts for the Bay of Bengal and Calcutta, for Bombay and the Western Coasts of India, and general charts for the whole peninsula. He has also organised the systematic collection of marine observations from ships arriving at the chief Indian ports. His special work, contained in a long series of memoirs, published either in separate form by the Meteorological Department, or in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, chiefly relates to storms in India and Indian seas, and comprises complete histories and discussions of fifteen cyclones and upwards of one hundred storms that have occurred between 1877 and 1886. The Annual Reports of the Meteorological Department, prepared by him, also contain many valuable and original discussions. He has contributed very largely to establish the Indian Meteorological Department on a thoroughly scientific basis, and to maintaining its high character and recognised practical importance to our great Indian dependency.

JOSEPH REYNOLDS GREEN,

D.Sc. (Cantab.), M.A., B.Sc. (Lond.), F.L.S. Professor of Botany, Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Distinguished for his acquaintance with botany. Attached to science, and has contributed to its progress by discoveries in the region of physiological chemistry, with reference chiefly to plants. His more important contributions are contained in the following papers:—"On the Organs of Secretion in the Hypericaceæ" (*Journ. Linn. Soc.* (*Bot.*), vol. xx., 1883); (with Dr. Sheridan Lea) "Some Notes on the Fibrin-ferment" (*Journ. of Physiol.*, vol. iv., 1883); "On the Edible Bird's Nest of the Java Swift" (*ibid.*, vol. vi., 1885); "On Proteids occurring in Latex" (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1886); "On the Action of Sodium Chloride in dissolving Fibrin" (*Journ. of Physiol.*, vol. viii., 1887); On Certain Points connected with the Coagulation of the Blood" (*ibid.*); "On the Changes in the Proteids of the Seed which accompany Germination" (*Phil. Trans.*, 1887); "On the Germination of the Tuber of the Jerusalem Antichoke" (*Annals of Botany*, vol. i., 1888); "On the Germination of the Seed of the Castor-oil Plant" (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1888); "On the Occurrence of Diastase in Pollen," (Brit. Assoc. Report, 1891); "On the Occurrence of Vegetable Trypsin in the Fruit of *Cucumis utilissimus*" (*Annals of Botany*, vol. vi., 1892); (with Prof. Vines) "On the Reserve Proteid of the Asparagus Root" (*Proc. Roy. Soc.*, 1892); "On the Ger-