

Cahours, and Saintour.—Discussion of the barometric heights in the zone 10°—30° N, during 1883, by M. A. Poincaré.—An internal governor for an aerial boat, by M. F. Lacerer.—Photography of Kœnig's flames, by M. Marage.—Experiments made on a new kathodic apparatus, by MM. Foveau de Courmelles and G. Seguy. The apparatus consists of two vacuum tubes joined to a spherical reservoir. The observations with this form show that the interior pressure in a vacuum tube is not equal at all points, this unequal distribution of the gas being produced during the passage of the current.—On the local attractions observed in Fergana, by M. Venukoff.—Heat of formation of formaldehyde, gaseous and dissolved, by M. Marcel Delépine.—On the formation of ammonium cyanide and its manufacture, by M. Denis Lance. Ammonia gas passed over carbon at a temperature of about 1000° C. always gives ammonium cyanide, the yield being greatest when the ammonia is mixed with a considerable proportion of nitrogen and hydrogen, and when the temperature is 1100° C.—Classification of the Orthoptera according to the characters drawn from their digestive apparatus, by M. L. Bordas.—Researches on the histology of the nerve cell, with some physiological considerations, by M. G. Marinisco.—On the physiological and pathological action of the X-rays, by M. Sorel. An account of the serious results following the application of the X-rays to the stomach. It is regarded as inadvisable, at least in certain subjects, to apply the X-rays in the neighbourhood of important organs, such as the stomach, heart, or lungs. It has been remarked that the body of an animal which has been dead for some time is always more opaque to the Röntgen rays than one just dead and still warm.—Remarks on the preceding note, by M. Lanne-longue.—On the toxicity of the alcohols, by M. Picaud. A study of the action of the alcohols upon fishes (*Carassius auratus*), batrachians (*Triton vulgaris*), and birds (*Carduelis elegans*). The toxic effect, as with the mammalia, was found to increase with the molecular weight.—Animal evolution, a function of the cooling of the globe, by M. R. Quinton.—Method of vaccination against poisoning by ricin, by M. Ch. Cornevin.—The destination of the megalithic monuments, by M. Ch. Godey.—A hydro-pneumatic motor, by M. G. Housset.—A horizontal barometer with rarefied air without the use of ice, by M. Victor Ducla.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Recent Developments in Electric Traction Appliances: A. K. Baylor. (Continuation of Discussion)

CAMERA CLUB, at 8.15.—Peeps into Nature's Secrets: R. Kearton.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, at 4.

TUESDAY, APRIL 27.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Volcanoes: Dr. Tempest Anderson.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Delft Ware: Dr. J. W. L. Glaisher, F.R.S.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Annual General Meeting.

ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, at 1.—Winter and Spring Bedding.

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—Technical Meeting, at 8.—A Practical Demonstration of Glass-blowing at the Lamp: T. Bolas.

ROYAL VICTORIA HALL, at 8.30.—The Life of an Egg: Dr. W. B. Benham.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Asbestos and Asbestic: with some Account of the Recent Discovery of the latter at Danville, in Lower Canada: Robert H. Jones.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Origin of some of the Gneisses of Anglesey: Dr. Charles Callaway.—Note on a Portion of the Nubian Desert South-east of Korosko: Captain H. G. Lyons, R.E., Miss C. A. Raisin, and Miss E. Aston

BRITISH ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION, at 5.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 4.—Annual Meeting.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Monochlorodiparacetic Acid and some Condensations: Dr. H. C. Myers.—On the Decomposition of Iron Pyrites: W. A. Caldecott.

CAMERA CLUB, at 8.15.—The Automatic Telephone: S. B. Apostoloff.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Kathode Rays: Prof. J. J. Thomson, F.R.S.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Some Observations on the Infectivity of Diphtheria, and its Relation to School Closure: Dr. Louis Parkes.

SATURDAY, MAY 1.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 5.—Annual Meeting.

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION.—Excursion to Cookham. Leave Paddington 1.40 p.m.; arrive Cookham 2.30 p.m. Director: Ll. Treacher.

LONDON GEOLOGICAL FIELD CLASS.—Excursion to Leith Hill. Lower Greensand. Leave London Bridge, 2; arrive Holmwood, 3.17.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, and SERIALS RECEIVED.

BOOKS.—Le Four Électrique: H. Moissan (Paris, Steinheil).—Meteorology in Mysore, 1895: J. Cook (Bangalore).—A System of Medicine: edited by Dr. T. C. Ailbutt, Vol. 2 (Macmillan).—Farm and Garden Insects: Dr. W. Somerville (Macmillan).—Collected Contributions on Digestion and Diet: Sir W. Roberts, 2nd edition (Smith).—Das Studium der Technischen Chemie: Dr. P. Fischer (Braunschweig, Vieweg).—L'Optica delle Oscillazioni Elettriche: Prof. A. Righti (Bologna, N. Zanichelli).—Some Unrecognised Laws of Nature: I. Singer and L. H. Berens (Murray).—The Ancient Volcanoes of Great Britain: Sir. A. Geikie (Macmillan).—Aids to the Study of Bacteriology: T. H. Pearmain and C. G. Moor (Baillière).—Geology of North-East Durham: D. Woolacott (Sunderland, Hills).—Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society, Vol. xxvii. (Hodgson).—Contributions to the Science of Mythology: Prof. F. Max Müller, 2 Vols. (Longmans).—A Guide to the Fossil Invertebrates and Plants in the Department of Geology and Palæontology in the British Museum (Natural History), S.W. (London).—The Law and Practice of Letters Patent for Inventors: Dr. L. Edmunds and Dr. T. M. Stevens, 2nd edition (Stevens).—With the Dutch in the East: Captain W. Cool, translated by E. J. Taylor (Luzac).—The Forcing Book: L. H. Bailey (Macmillan).—The Story of the Mine: C. H. Shinn (Gay).—Problems and Questions in Physics: C. P. Matthews and J. Shearer (Macmillan).—Experimental Morphology: Dr. C. B. Davenport, Part 1 (Macmillan).—Cytologische studien aus dem Bonner Botanischen Institut: E. Strasburger and others (Berlin, Borntraeger).—Recherches sur les Origines de l'Égypte: J. De Morgan (Paris, Leroux).

PAMPHLETS.—Comité International des Poids et Mesures, Procès-Verbaux des Séances de 1895 (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—Comptes rendus des Séances de la Deuxième Conférence Générale des Poids et Mesures, 1895 (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—A Protest against the Modern Development of Unmusical Tone: T. C. Lewis (Chiswick Press).—Criticisms on Darwin's, Wallace's, and Hæckel's Evolution Theories (Hodgson).—First Annual Report of the New York Zoological Society (New York).

SERIALS.—Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society, March (New York).—Physical Review, Vol. iv. No. 5 (Macmillan).—Geographical Journal, April (Stanford).—Mind, April (Williams).—American Journal of Science, April (New Haven).—Notes from the Leyden Museum, October 1896 (Leiden, Brill).—Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, March (Stanford).—Engineering Magazine, April (Tucker).—Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, November 1896 (Philadelphia).—Annals of the Astronomical Observatory of Harvard College, Vol. xl. Part 5; ditto, Vol. xxx. Part 4 (Cambridge, Mass.).—Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society, March (117 Victoria Street).

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