

appendices, addenda, and endless footnotes (with supplementary notes to these). On pp. 34-39 we have some 240 lines of footnotes to 34 lines of text! All this makes the book rather irritating reading, although the notes are valuable and often very amusing. Thus, in a note on the permanence and identification of the ego (p. 4), we read:—

“Not long ago, after a trying railway journey by night, and much fatigued, I got into an omnibus, just as another gentleman appeared at the other end. ‘What degenerate pedagogue is that, that has just entered,’ thought I. It was myself: opposite me hung a large mirror. The physiognomy of my class, accordingly, was much better known to me than my own.”

The author adopts a consistent, monistic conception of Müller's doctrine of the “specific energies,” assuming that there are as many physico-chemical neural processes as there are distinguishable qualities of sensation, and regards sensations as *the elements of the world*. The principle of continuity (which has its root in an effort for economy) and the principle of sufficient determination (or differentiation) are employed to investigate the connection between psychologically observable data and the corresponding physical (or physiological) processes. It is throughout assumed that there is a complete parallelism between the psychical and the physical—that there is no real gulf between the two. After a highly interesting discussion of the space-sensations of the eye, the difficult subject of time-sensation is attacked; then sensations of tone. Here we have a criticism of Helmholtz's analysis of the characteristic sensation corresponding to each musical interval, and a new hypothesis (containing a more positive factor in the explanation than the mere absence of beats) is developed at some length.

In spite of its modest dimensions the book is one which no future writer on the subject can afford to neglect. The physicist will find in it much to stimulate inquiry. It offers a refreshing contrast to much that is written on psychology in the originality of its views, of the observations on which they are based, and of the experiments which are devised to test them. *pv.*

*Euclid, Books I.-IV.* (The University Tutorial Series.) By Rupert Deakin, M.A. Pp. viii + 308. (London: W. B. Clive, Univ. Corres. Coll. Press, 1897).

OF the numerous books which have appeared in the last few years on the propositions of Euclid, each has been put forward as possessing some particular feature of excellence. The writers of these claim, in some cases, that the student cannot have too much detail and explanation given to him in the text, while others aim at a pure cut and dried edition with a great number of accompanying exercises. Each of these types may have their good qualities, for the successful teaching of Euclid is by no means an easy task.

In the book before us the author has, to a great extent, struck a mean between both these lines. His aim has been to lay the proof of each proposition concisely, and yet not too elaborately, before the student, without rendering the proposition too long to cause perplexity and bewilderment. A few easy exercises are added after each proposition, on which the student is advised to exercise his ingenuity.

At the conclusion of each book are inserted a useful series of notes bearing on the propositions, pointing out the chief points of connection and difference between each; then follows a brief but clear summary of the results arrived at in the book under discussion. Teachers might make the students familiar with this summary at an earlier period; and if this be done judiciously, a general survey of the propositions, showing how they are connected with one another, would render the subject more interesting.

NO. 1450, VOL. 56]

Further, some important additional propositions and sets of miscellaneous riders, arranged under different headings, are added, some of which should always be attempted.

The author having had more than twenty years' experience in teaching this subject to both large and small classes, the chief difficulties that are generally met with have received special attention. As a class-book the volume should find much favour.

*The Voyages made by the Sieur D. B. to the Islands Dauphiné or Madagascar and Bourbon or Mascarenne in the Years 1669, 1670, 1671 and 1672.* Translated and edited by Captain Pasfield Oliver, late Royal Artillery. With facsimile maps and illustrations. Pp. xl + 160. (London: David Nutt, 1897.)

THIS little volume might well have been produced by the Hakluyt Society, with the publications of which it is uniform. It is the translation of a rare French book, describing the voyages of one Dubois in the seventeenth century. The translation well reflects the quaintness of the original, although the attempt to imitate the English style and spelling of two centuries since are not always very happy. Captain Oliver has supplied an introduction tracing the history of Dubois, and of the French colonies in the islands of the Indian Ocean during his lifetime; as well as a series of notes on various points mentioned in the text. Apart from the historical interest attached to all early travels the narration of the Sieur D. B. has a certain original value, as he describes from his own observations several of the extinct birds of Réunion, especially the *Solitaire* and *Oiseau bleu*, which were contemporaries of the Dodo of Mauritius, and closely resembled that bird in their habits. These descriptions have long since been fully discussed by ornithologists, both in France and England.

The book is illustrated by a photograph of the surviving giant tortoises which have been removed from the Mascarenes to Mr. Rothschild's park at Tring, and drawings of a number of birds, together with reproductions of modern photographs of the people and products of Madagascar. In view of the renewal of French colonisation in Madagascar, the shrewd observations and far-seeing advice of the old traveller may be worthy of attention. The book well deserved translation, and Captain Oliver is to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which he has brought it out.

*Elementarcurs der Zootomie in fünfzehn Vorlesungen.* Von Dr. B. Hatschek und Dr. C. J. Cori. Pp. viii + 103. (Jena: Gustav Fischer, 1896.)

THIS little book has been compiled by Prof. Hatschek and Dr. Cori, as a guide to dissection, for the use of elementary students attending lectures in Prag. The fact that no less than ten animals are dealt with in little over one hundred octavo pages sufficiently indicates the scope of the work, which contains simply concise notes of the more important characters of the animals treated, and technical directions for dissecting them. The characters referred to are always such as can be demonstrated by simple dissection, without complicated methods of preparation, and without the use of the compound microscope. It follows from this that the Protozoa are entirely excluded, as are also the Cœlentera.

The names on the title-page are a sufficient guarantee that the information contained in the book is accurate, so far as it goes, and the illustrative drawings are adequate to the purpose in view. No doubt Prof. Hatschek's students will find the book of service to them in their efforts to follow his lectures and laboratory teaching; but there is no reason why English students should desert the works, such as that of Marshall and Hurst, which so many of them at present use.