

not completely precipitate the levorotatory substances present in urine. If acid mercurous nitrate is used as the precipitating agent, the two methods agree.—Influence of light on the formation of living nitrogenous substances in the tissues of plants, by M. W. Palladine.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—On the Reflex Electrical Effects in Mixed Nerve and in the Anterior and Posterior Roots: Miss Sowton.—The Characteristic of Nerve: Dr. A. D. Waller, F.R.S.—Observations on the Cerebro-spinal Fluid in the Human Subject: Dr. St. Clair Thomson, Dr. L. Hill, and Prof. Halliburton, F.R.S.—The Thermal Deformation of the Crystallised Normal Sulphates of Potassium, Rubidium, and Cæsium: A. E. Tutton.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Toxins and Antitoxins: Dr. Allan Macfadyen.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Genus *Lemna*, Gray, with an Account of the Branching Systems of the Order Alcyonacea: Gilbert C. Bourne.—On some African *Labiatae*, with Alternate Leaves: J. H. Burkill and C. H. Wright.—Report on the Marine Mollusca obtained during the First Expedition of Prof. A. C. Haddon to the Torres Straits: James Cosmo Melvill and Robert Standen.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Absorption Spectrum and Constitution attributed to Cyanuric Acid: W. N. Hartley, F.R.S.—Ballot for the Election of Fellows.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 3.—Annual General Meeting.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB, at 8.—Annual General Meeting.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Mechanical Properties of Bodies: Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Cycle Construction and Design: Archibald Sharp.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE, at 8.30.—Thirty-eight Years in Queensland: Hon. Sir Horace Tozer, K.C.M.G.

VICTORIA INSTITUTE, at 4.30.—Life: Prof. Beale, F.R.S.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Morphology of the Mollusca: Prof. E. Ray Lankester, F.R.S.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Vitreous Enamels: Cyril Davenport.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.40.—On a Portion of Skin, named *Neomyiodon listai*, from a Cavern near Consuelo Cove, Last Hope Inlet, Patagonia. With a Description of the Specimen by Mr. A. Smith Woodward: Dr. F. P. Moreno.—On the Formation of the Coral-Reefs of the North-west Coast of Australia: Surgeon P. W. Bassett-Smith.—On a Collection of Reptiles and Batrachians made by Mr. J. D. La Touche in North-west Fokien, China: G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Paper to be further discussed: The Lake Superior Iron Ore Mines, and their Influence upon the Production of Iron and Steel: Jeremiah Head and Archibald P. Head.

ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—Comparative Statistics of Australasian Railways: Price Howell.

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, at 8.—Demonstration with Violet Electric Waves for Actuating Photographic Apparatus, and for Photographing Lightning in Daylight: F. H. Glew.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Electric Traction, and its Application to Railway Work: Philip Dawson.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On Varieties of Serpentine and Associated Rocks in Anglesey: Prof. T. G. Bonney, F.R.S., and Miss C. A. Raisin.—Remarks on the Genera *Ectomaria*, Koken, and *Hormotoma*, Salter; with Descriptions of British Species: Miss J. Donald.

INSTITUTION OF MINING ENGINEERS (Stoke-upon-Trent), at 11.30.—The following Papers will be read or taken as read:—Historical Sketch of the First Institute of Mining Engineers: Bennett H. Brough.—Further Notes on Pit-props: Prof. H. Louis.—The Working of the Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 and 1890: E. G. Hiller.—Alternating Currents and their possible Applications to Mines: Sydney F. Walker.—Notes on Coal-cutting Machinery: L. W. de Grave.—Safety Explosives: W. J. Orsman.—The Occurrence of Anhydrite in the North of England: C. E. de Rance.—Sulphur-Mines in the South of Spain: Arthur P. Wilson.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—*Probable Papers*: The Efficiency of Man, or Economic Coefficient of the Human Machine: Dr. Marcey, F.R.S., and R. B. Floris.—Some Experiments bearing on the Theory of Voltaic Action: J. Brown.—Deposition of Barium Sulphate as a Cementing Material of Sandstone: Dr. F. Clowes.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Toxins and Antitoxins: Dr. Allan Macfadyen.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Coherers: Prof. Oliver Lodge, F.R.S.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—The Joule-Thomson Thermal Effect: E. F. J. Love.—(1) A Study of an Apparatus for the Determination of the Rate of Diffusion of Solids dissolved in Liquids; (2) Note on the Source of Energy in Diffusive Convection; Albert Griffiths.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Loss of Heat from Buildings: R. Gordon Mackay.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Mechanical Properties of Bodies: Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S.

NO. 1529, VOL. 59]

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, and SERIALS RECEIVED.

BOOKS.—A Digest of Metabolism Experiments: Drs. Atwater and Langworthy (Washington).—De la Méthode dans la Psychologie des Sentiments: Prof. F. Rauh (Paris, Alcan).—La Photographie Animée: E. Trutat (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—Medical Works of the Fourteenth Century: Rev. Prof. Henslow (Chapman).—The Story of the Mind: J. M. Baldwin (Newnes).—Les Formes Épitiques et l'Évolution des Cirratuliers: M. Caullery and F. Mesnil (Paris, Baillière).—The Foundations of Zoology: Prof. W. K. Brooks (Macmillan).—Commercial Cuba: W. J. Clark (Chapman).—Remarkable Comets: W. T. Lynn, 7th edition (Stanford).—General Physiology: Prof. Max Verworn, translated and edited by Dr. F. S. Lee (Macmillan).—Siddhānta-Darpana, a Treatise on Astronomy: M. S. S. C. Simha, edited, &c., by Prof. J. C. Ráy (Calcutta).

PAMPHLETS.—Biblical Antiquities: C. Adler and I. M. Casanowicz (Washington).—Manchester Museum, Owens College Museum Handbooks, Publication No. 24 (Manchester).

SERIALS.—Bulletin de l'Académie Royale des Sciences, &c., de Belgique, 1898, No. 12 (Bruxelles).—Bulletin from the Laboratories of Natural History of the State University of Iowa, December (Iowa).—Atlantic Monthly, February (Gay).—Encyclopédie der Mathematischen Wissenschaften, Band 1, Teil 1, Heft 2 (Leipzig, Teubner).—Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science, January (Churchill).—Monthly Weather Review, November (Washington).—Among British Birds in their Nesting Haunts: O. A. J. Lee, Part xiii. (Edinburgh).—Bulletin of the New York State Museum, November (Albany).—Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society, February (Longmans).—Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales, December (Sydney).—Himmel und Erde, February (Berlin).—Proceedings of the American Association, August 1898 (Salem).

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Technical Chemists as "Made in Germany." By Prof. R. Meldola, F.R.S.	361
Sewage Purification and Sewerage	363
Dr. Dreyer on Darwinism. By Prof. W. F. R. Weldon, F.R.S.	364
Our Book Shelf:—	
Merriman: "Elements of Sanitary Engineering"	365
Labbé: "La Cytologie Expérimentale"	366
Nitsche: "Studien über Hirsche (Gattung <i>Cervus</i> im weitesten Sinne)."—R. L.	366
Fison: "Recent Advances in Astronomy"	367
Youngusband: "Among the Celestials"	367
Gibbs: "A Cotswold Village: or, Country Life and Pursuits in Gloucestershire"	367
Letters to the Editor:—	
Production of Magnetisation by Circularly Polarised Light.—Prof. Andrew Gray, F.R.S.	367
Magnetic Perturbations of the Spectral Lines.—Further Resolution of the Quartet.—Prof. Thomas Preston, F.R.S.	367
The Density of the Matter Composing the Kathode Rays.—W. B. Morton	368
Earthquake Echoes. (<i>Illustrated</i>).—Prof. John Milne, F.R.S.	368
Is Natural Selection all Metaphor?—Prof. J. C. Ewart, F.R.S.	369
Geometry versus Euclid.—Prof. Geo. M. Minchin, F.R.S.	369
The Cataloguing of Periodical Scientific Literature.—Frank Campbell	370
Plague in China.—Kumagusu Minakata	370
A Simple Spectroscope and its Teachings. I. (<i>Illustrated</i>). By Sir Norman Lockyer, K.C.B., F.R.S.	371
Thomas Hincks, F.R.S. By S. F. H.	374
Notes	374
Our Astronomical Column:—	
Wolf's Comet, 1898 IV.	378
Comet Chase, 1898 VIII.	379
Variation of Spectrum of Orion Nebula	379
Latitude Determination	379
Lynn's "Remarkable Comets"	379
The Theory of the Stassfurt Salt Deposits	379
The Natural History of Cordierite and its Associates. By J. J. H. Teall, F.R.S.	380
University and Educational Intelligence	381
Societies and Academies	381
Diary of Societies	384
Books, Pamphlets, and Serials Received	384