upon the drink problem that one based upon the consumption of liquor would have, but perhaps is not entirely without value. It certainly is not if it tends in the slightest way to throw the temperance problem into the hands of social reformers. Better heated tenements, warmer overcoats, and more nourishing food may have more to do with it than we think.

EDWIN G. DEXTER.

If the writer of the notice, by any remarks of his, has given annoyance to Prof. Dexter, whose industry and careful compilation of facts have never been called into question, he would greatly regret it. But in so far as that notice has been the means of procuring from the author a most interesting letter, he can only congratulate himself.

One might call attention to many significant conclusions that could be drawn from Prof. Dexter's curves; but perhaps the most prominent is that, apparently, the greatest number of assaults are committed when the populace is the most sober. This is an entirely unexpected conclusion. In this country, we have been repeatedly told that drunkenness is the main cause of crime, especially of crimes directed against the person; and yet a careful elaboration of statistics, compiled by an eminent authority, completely demonstrates the fallacy of such an argument when applied to the City of New York.

THE WRITER OF THE NOTICE.

Deceptive Bibliographic Indications.

AUTHORS' reprints of scientific papers are indeed a boon to the worker in science, especially to him who is distant from a large library. But their usefulness to the recipient who is himself a writer of works, and not a reader only, depends to a large extent on whether the reprints are or are not provided with correct and complete bibliographical indications of their origin. Occasionally one gets a reprint without date, with no reference to the original volume, page, and plate numbers, and even it may be without the name of the periodical from which it is an extract. But in the majority of reprints distributed nowadays, an attempt has been made to give the requisite information. Success is not often attained, it is true; still one is grateful for the good intention.

The imperfections hitherto mentioned are only too easily observed, and the task of making them good, though wearisome, is not impossible if one lives long enough. But among the reprints sent to me during the last two months are numerous instances of an error more difficult to detect, and more annoying in its results. To all appearance the reprints in question give the requisite bibliographic indications, their paging seems to be that of the original, and the type shows no signs of having been disturbed. But in each case one or more of these appearances is a specious falsehood. Here are some of the misstatements observed. A reprint paged 141-147 originally appeared on pp. 142-148. A paper that occurs on pp. 170-175 of the publishing society's *Bulletin* has had the type spaced out so that the pagination of the reprint is 170-176. A reprint has the original pagination carefully given in [] on each page, and runs from 367 to 370; the original pages were 367-371, and half of every page has been shifted to the preceding. Sometimes the wrapper of the reprint gives one set of numbers, while the pages themselves bear another set, each purporting to be the original.

The last case is not so objectionable, since it is clear there is a mistake somewhere. But in the other cases it is only by chance that one detects the error. Each seems trivial in itself, and a single instance hailing from some petty local club would be passed over with a laugh and a grumble. But examples have come to me alone, during a few weeks, from the publications of the German Geological Society, the Zoological Society of France, the Natural History Museum of Paris, the International "Congress of Zoology," the Geological Survey of Canada, and the *Geological Magazine*.

This contempt for veracity is chargeable to the printer, not the authors; and the remedy lies in the hands of the editor. If the editors of our scientific publications would but realise the perpetual inconvenience that is caused by a little want of thought, and would but give clear and definite instructions to their printers to place the required bibliographic indications at the head of each reprint, to retain original pagination, and never to shift the type without duly stating the fact—then the

amount of time saved by the numerous workers who have to rely upon authors' copies would be far greater than most people have any idea of.

F. A. BATHER.

January 31.

Specific Heat of Marble.

IN 1898 we published, in the *Proceedings* of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a paper containing a discussion of certain mathematical problems arising in the study of the flow of heat in prisms, together with an account of an investigation of the conductivities of a number of specimens of glass and of marble.

In this paper we called attention to two groups of fine-grained marbles, which have conductivities (nearly independent of the temperature within wide limits) of 0.0068 and 0.0076 respectively, while Carrara Statuary marble and many of the British marbles—as Messrs. Herschel, Lebour and Dunn have shown—have conductivities of only 0.0051.

Within a few weeks we have found time to determine the specific heats of all our marble blocks, and have obtained the results given in the table which follows.

These specimens, each of which is described in our former paper, had been lying untouched in the warmed laboratory for about ten months, and were, therefore, neither abnormally moist nor abnormally dry.

Variety of Marble.	Sp. Gr.	Con- ductivity.	Average sp. ht. between 25° C. and 100° C.	Sp. ht. per unit volume.
"Carrara Statuary"	2.72	0.00501 0.00509	0.213	0.579
"Mexican Onyx"	2.71	0.00556	0.211	0.572
"Vermont Statuary"	2.71	0.00578	0.210	0.569
"American White"	2.72	0.00596	0.214	0.582
"Egyptian"	2.74	0.00623	0.212	0.581
"Sienna"	2.68	0.00676	0.215	0.576
"Bardiglio"	2.69	0.00680	0.218	0.586
"Vermont Cloudy White"	2.75	0.00681	0.210	0.578
"Vermont Dove Coloured"	2.74	0.00684	0.208	0.570
"Lisbon"	2.75	0.00685	0.211	0.580
"American Black"	2.68	0.00685	0.214	0.574
"Belgian"	2.75	0.00755	0.206	0.567
"African Rose Ivory"	2.75	0.00756	0.212	0.583
"Tennessee Fossiliferous"	2.71	0.00756	0.214	0.580
"Knoxville Pink"	2.73	0.00757	0.212	0.579
"St. Baume"	2.70	0.00761	0.210	0.567

The results of twenty-two determinations made between different temperature limits with a number of pieces of Carrara Statuary marble artificially dried at a temperature a little above 100° C. are well represented by the following formula

$$Q = 0.1848(t - 25) + 0.00019(t - 25)^2,$$

in which Q represents the amount of heat in calories required to raise one gramme of this *dry* marble from 25° C. to the temperature t .

Jefferson Physical Laboratory,
Harvard University, U.S.A.

B. O. PEIRCE.
ROBERT W. WILLSON.

The Coccidæ of New Zealand.

MR. H. FARQUHAR, in your issue of January 11, p. 247, has some interesting remarks on the Coccidæ of New Zealand, which, however, need to be slightly modified in the light of recent researches. The genera of Coccidæ peculiar to New Zealand are as follows:—

(1) *Phenacoleachia*, Ckll. (type *Leachia zealandica*, Maskell). One species. This is an extremely distinct genus, and may be regarded as the type of a distinct subfamily (Phenacoleachiinæ), differing from the Coccinæ by the compound eyes of the male, wherein it is allied to the Ortheziinæ.

(2) *Coelostomidia*, new name (*Coelostoma*, Maskell, not of Brullé, 1835, nor *Coelostomus*, McLeay, 1825). Five species. All the supposed species of *Coelostomidia* found in Australia belong to *Callipappus*.