which has been proved in the plant extracts in several ways. It is a curious fact that the varieties which are the most esteemed commercially are those which contain the greatest amount of this oxydase.—On the *Iboga*, on its exciting properties, its composition, and on the new alkaloid, ibogaine, which it contains, by MM. J. Dybowski and Ed. Landrin. A plant much used by the natives in the French Congo, and called by them *iboga*, has been found to owe its sustaining and fatigue-resisting properties to the presence of a new alkaloid, ibogaine, to which the constitution $C_{52}H_{66}N_6O_2$ is assigned. In small doses this substance produces a peculiar excitement, in large doses the effects resemble those due to the absorption of alcohol in excess.—The influence of methylal upon the growth of some algæ in soft water, by M. Raoul Bouilhac. Certain algæ, nostoc and *Anaboena*, were placed in nutritive solutions and exposed to light of feeble intensity, too feeble to enable the algæ to decompose carbonic acid; it was found that under these conditions growth could take place if a small quantity of methylal were present.—Researches on the formation of the ovule and the embryonic sac in the Araliaceæ and of the modifications undergone by the tegument, by M. L. Ducamp.—The germination of the spores of *Penicillium* in water, by M. Pierre Lesage.—The effects of freezing upon milk, by MM. F. Bordas and de Raczkowski.—On the secular variations of terrestrial magnetism, by M. V. Raulin.—Experiments in maritime aëronautics, by M. H. Hervé.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Linnean Society, September 25.—Mr. J. H. Maiden, president, in the chair.—Arachnida from the South Seas, by W. J. Rainbow. Thirty-four species are enumerated, of which four are described as new, namely, *Leptodrassus insulanus*, *Argyrodes walkeri*, *Diaea bipunctata* and *D. regale*. The most interesting of them is *L. insulanus*, as it records a new locality for the genus.—On the systematic position of *Purpura tritoniformis*, Blainv., by H. L. Kesteven. Reasons are given for removing *P. tritoniformis* from *Urosalpinx* and *Cominella* and transferring it to *Purpura*. In selecting the subgenus of the latter for its reception, the resemblance of the larval shell and anatomical characters to *P. succincta* cause the writer to place it in *Trochia*. The names *Adamsia* and *Agnewia* consequently lapse into the synonymy of *Trochia*.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Linear Groups in an Infinite Field: Dr. L. E. Dickson.—Note on the Algebraic Properties of Pfaffians: J. Brill.—On Burmann's Theorem: Prof. A. C. Dixon.—The Puiseux Diagram and Differential Equations: R. W. H. T. Hudson.—Determination of all the Groups of Order 168: Dr. G. A. Miller.—An Outline of a Theory of Divergent Integrals: G. H. Hardy.—On the Representation of a Group of Finite Order as a Permutation Group; and on the Composition of Permutation Groups: Prof. W. Burnside, F.R.S.—(1) On the Inversion of Plane Stress; (2) On the Theory of Hele-Shaw's Experiments on Fluid Motion: J. H. Michell.—On the Steady Motion of a Sphere through Viscous Liquid: T. Stuart.—Addition Theorems for Hyperelliptic Integrals: A. L. Dixon.—Limits of Logical Statements: H. MacColl.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—The President, Dr. Patrick Manson, C.M.G., F.R.S., will deliver his Inaugural Address on the Ætiology of Beriberi.

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Okapia, a New Genus of Giraffidæ from Central Africa: Prof. E. Ray Lankester, F.R.S.—On the Giraffe discovered by Sir Harry Johnston, K.C.B., near Mount Elgon, Central Africa: Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S.—On the Genital Organs of the Male Lepidosiren and Protopterus: J. Graham Kerr.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—*Paper to be further discussed*: The Discharge of Sewage into a Tidal Estuary: W. Kaye Parry and Dr. W. E. Adeney.—*And, time permitting*: The Treatment of Trades Waste Bacterially: William Naylor.

ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Local and Imperial Burdens: Lord Avebury, F.R.S.

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, at 8.—Japan as illustrated by Herself: J. W. Groves.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Origin of Certain Concretions in the Lower Coal Measures: H. B. Stocks.—Some Remarks on the Meteorological Conditions of the Pleistocene Epoch: Nils Ekholm.—Notes on the Genus Lichas: F. R. C. Reed.

ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 7.30.—The Exploration of the Atmosphere at sea by means of Kites: A. Lawrence Rotch.—Meteorological Phenomena in relation to the Changes in the Vertical: Prof. John Milne, F.R.S.

ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Stereomicrography: Prof. G. P. Girdwood, preceded at 7.30 by an Exhibition of some Antipoints seen under the Microscope: Conrad Beck.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Opening Address: Sir William Henry Preece, K.C.B., F.R.S.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—*Probable Papers*: On Skin-currents. Part II. Observations on Cats: Dr. Waller, F.R.S.—The New Biological Test for Blood in relation to Zoological Classification: Dr. G. H. F. Nuttall.—Observations on the Cerebral Cortex of the Ape (Preliminary Communication): A. S. F. Grünbaum and Prof. Sherrington, F.R.S.—On the Inheritance of the Mental Characteristics in Man: Prof. K. Pearson, F.R.S

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—Report on the Botanical Publications of the United Kingdom as a Part of the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature: B. Daydon Jackson.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Oxidation of Sulphurous Acid to Dithionic Acid by Metallic Oxides: H. C. H. Carpenter.—Optically Active β-hydroxybutyric Acids: A. McKenzie.—On the Hydrochloride of Thiocarbamide: H. P. Stevens.—The Constituents of the Essential Oil of Asarum Canadense: F. B. Power and F. H. Lees.—Note on the Reduction of Trinitrobenzene and Trinitrotoluene with Hydrogen Sulphide: J. B. Cohen and H. D. Dakin.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.

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