

described permits of the administration of a given quantity of chloroform in a given time, whatever may be the respiratory activity.—The preservation of chloroform, and an arrangement indicating its accidental alteration: Pierre Breteau and Paul Woog. Pith tinted with Congo red is recommended as the most practical means of detecting acid alteration products in chloroform.—The physiological action of Euphorbium resin: L. Pénieres.—The nature of vaccine virus: H. Nicolle and M. Adil-Bey.—The causes of alteration of butter. The bacteriological control of butter manufacture: M. Mazé.—The geological constitution of the Chézery region: Attale Riche.

CALCUTTA.

**Asiatic Society of Bengal.** December 5, 1906.—The common kestrel (*Tinnunculus alaudarius*): Lieut.-Colonel D. C. Phillott. Note on the breeding and distribution of this bird in India; its use in Persia as a decoy for hawks; its employment by the Arabs for training greyhound puppies destined for the sport of gazelle-hawking.—Note on the falcon (*Falco jugger*): Lieut.-Colonel D. C. Phillott. Note on habits, breeding, prey, and use in falconry, with a detailed description of and a figure illustrating its use as a *barak*, or decoy with nooses, by Indian hawk-catchers.—*Swertia tongluensis*, and a new variety of *Swertia purpurascens*: I. H. Burkill. Records the result of observations in the field upon the difference between *Swertia tongluensis* and *Swertia Chirata*. Both plants are equally bitter. The new variety of *Swertia purpurascens* was collected in the Sikkim Himalaya. It differs from the type in several features, and the finding of it extends the range of the species to the east of Nepal.—Hunting-dogs from an Arabic manuscript of the fourth century: Lieut.-Colonel D. C. Phillott and R. F. Azoo.—A specimen of *Felis tristis*, Milne-Edwards, in the Indian Museum: N. Annandale. The skull of this rare cat is figured and described from a specimen of unknown *provenance*. The most characteristic feature of the dentition is the high development of the anterior *præmolar*.—Miniature tank worship in Bengal: A. N. Moberly.—The Rajmahal hill folk. The Saorias of the Rajmahal Hills: R. Bainbridge.—Fresh-water fauna of India, No. 11. The occurrence of the medusa, *Irene ceylonensis*, in brackish pools, together with its hydroid stage: N. Annandale. This medusa has been found, with its hydroid stage, in pools in the Ganges delta which probably contain about one-third of the proportion of mineral salts commonly present in sea-water.—Fresh-water fauna of India, No. 12. A preliminary note on the Polyzoa occurring in Indian fresh water and brackish pools, with the description of a new *Lophopus*: N. Annandale. *Victorella pavida* is recorded from near Calcutta, the "species" of *Plumatella* (*P. repens*, *P. emarginata*, and *P. allmani*) occurring in India are discussed, and a *Lophopus* distinguished from *L. crystallinus* by the shape of its statoblasts is described from a lake in the outer Himalayas.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Signalling to a Distance: the Telephone and its Working: W. Duddell.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4.

LONDON INSTITUTION, at 4.—Earthquakes and Geysers: W. Herbert Garrison.  
ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 3.30.—Japan and the Japanese as I saw them: Miss A. L. Murcutt.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Signalling to a Distance: Early Wireless Telegraphs: W. Duddell.  
GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION, at 8.—On a Norwegian Snowfield and its Glaciers: Horace W. Monckton.

MONDAY, JANUARY 7.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 3.30.—A Lady's Journey from the Cape to Cairo: Miss Mary Hall.  
SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, at 8.—The Sixth International Congress of Applied Chemistry at Rome: Walter F. Reid.  
VICTORIA INSTITUTE, at 4.30.—The San Francisco and Valparaiso Earthquakes and their Causes: Dr. Warren Upham.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Signalling to a Distance: The Radio Telegraph: W. Duddell.  
INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Simplon Tunnel: Francis Fox.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 5.—Perils and Adventures Underground: Bennett H. Brough.  
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Cretaceous Formations of Bahia (Brazil), and on Vertebrate Fossils collected therein: J. Mawson and Dr. A. S. Woodward, F.R.S.—On a new Dinosaurian Reptile from the Trias of Elgin: Dr. A. S. Woodward, F.R.S.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 5.30.—Exhibition of Four-dimensional Models: Mrs. A. Stott.—On the Uniform Convergence of Fourier's Series: Dr. E. W. Hobson.—Asymptotic Approximation to Integral Functions of Zero Order: J. E. Littlewood.—Partial Differential Equations of the Second Order having Integral Systems free from Partial Quadratures: Prof. A. R. Forsyth.—On the Singular Points of Some Classes of Power Series in Several Variables: G. H. Hardy.—The Construction of the Line drawn through a Given Point to meet Two Given Lines: Prof. W. Burnside.  
INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—New Incandescent Lamps: J. Swinburne.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Balancing of Internal-combustion Motors applied to Marine Propulsion: A. T. Weston.  
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 5.  
MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Descriptions of New Species of Achatina from the Congo Free State: S. I. Da Costa.—Further Contributions to the Genus *Chloritis*, with Descriptions of Eleven New Species: G. K. Gude.—Description of a New Species of *Papuina*, and Illustrations of some hitherto unfigured Helicoid Land-shells: G. K. Gude.—Descriptions of new Non-marine Shells from New Zealand: Henry Suter.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY (at The Queen's Hall, Langham Place), at 8.45.—The Duke of the Abruzzi's Expedition to Mount Ruwenzori.  
PUBLIC SCHOOL SCIENCE MASTERS' ASSOCIATION (University of London), at 2.30.—The Place of Science and of Literature in a General Education: Rev. and Hon. E. Lyttelton.—The Internal Economy of School Science: Mr. Thwaites.—The best Method of Introducing the Atomic Theory in Science: F. R. L. Wilson.

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