

tions of the Old World will be kept on file available for consultation at the Library of Congress.

The names of the societies are placed in alphabetical order in various sections, the first containing the national societies of the United States, and the second, local societies and institutions; these together occupy 426 pages out of a total of 537. The volume contains twenty-four pages of addenda and corrections, and an excellent index of thirty pages.

Each entry commences with the official name of the society or institution, its postal address, and the name of the official, if any, to whom communications should be addressed. Notes of its history are given, including dates of foundation and incorporation and changes of name and organisation, and if it possesses a library the number of volumes is stated; its object; time and place of meeting; number of members and fees; the exact titles of its publications and any special publications; the mode of distribution of publications; and a statement of research funds and prizes.

It is a remarkable book, not only for its size, but for the large amount of information it contains and the evident care that has been taken in its preparation. It is to be regretted that the entries are not numbered, for it would be interesting to know how many associations there are in the New World; it would be too laborious to count the names in the book, but the first ninety-five pages contain those of no fewer than 125 national societies in the United States. The institutions are not all what would be usually considered as scientific societies, although, no doubt, the works that they perform are carried out in accordance with the scientific spirit.

The index is well arranged; the sciences are printed in capitals with references to the pages on which societies dealing with them are to be found; the full names of societies are in Roman, and those of publications which do not carry the names of the societies which publish them are printed in italics; it may not be generally known that many of the American journals are published by societies, and not by individuals and firms as is often done in this country.

The book is well printed, and cannot fail to be of great use to those interested in American societies and their work; its production reflects great credit on all concerned with its preparation and publication.

H. M.

*Supplementum Conspectus Florae Graecae.* Auctore E. de Halácsy. Pp. iv+132. (Leipzig: W. Engelmann, 1908.) Price 6 marks.

THE publication of this supplement only four years after the completion of the main work shows once more how, far from exhausting the interest in the exploration of a country, a good flora rather acts as a most effective stimulus in widening and deepening it. As the main work was noticed in detail in this *Journal* (vol. lxxiv., p. 314), it may suffice here to state that the bulk of the supplement consists in additions of new localities, mostly from recent collections; but there is also a considerable access of species not recorded in the original "Conspectus," and of entirely new forms. The species referred to in one way or another amount to about 1600, certainly enough to justify the issue of a supplement. The disposition of one genus, *Taraxacum*, has been entirely recast after Handel-Mazzetti's new monograph. As it now stands, it comprises nine species against two in Boissier's "*Floræ Orientalis*," and five in the "Conspectus."

The treatment of nomenclature is commendably conservative; but why, then, the obsolete *Wilckia* for the well-known *Malcolmia*? One point, however, challenges criticism. In the original "Conspectus"

we have already two systems of authors' quotations. In the body of the book we find, for instance, *Acantholimon echinus*, L.; in the index it is *Acantholimon echinus*, Boiss. In the body of the supplement this species stands simply as *Acantholimon echinus*, whilst the index has it as *Acantholimon echinus* (L.); and many similar instances might be quoted. The correct citation is *Acantholimon echinus*, Boiss., or according to a now rather common fashion, *Acantholimon echinus* (L.), Boiss.

We hope there may be in four or five years' time another supplement with a general index to the whole work, including the supplements. This is very much needed, and it will give the author an opportunity of revising his citations according to a uniform plan, preferably that of the "Vienna rules." Then, we trust, will also disappear the rather numerous printers' errors which disfigure the index of the present supplement. OTTO STAFF.

*Grundriss der Kristallographie für Studierende und zum Selbstunterricht.* By Gottlob Linck. Pp. vi+256. Second edition. (Jena: Gustav Fischer, 1908.) Price 10 marks.

IN the preface to the first edition, published twelve years ago, Prof. Linck remarked that he wished to place in the hands of chemists and others to whom some knowledge of the properties of crystallised matter was necessary a book that should be moderate in cost and should discuss with sufficient fulness, yet in simple language, the elements of crystallography. Except for the alterations necessitated by the advances made in both the subject itself and the methods of teaching it during the interval that has elapsed, the second edition follows closely on the lines of the first. The thirty-two classes of possible crystalline symmetry are subdivided into six systems in the usual way, and the proper understanding of the symmetry peculiar to each class has been much facilitated by the admirable illustrations, reproduced from photographs of wooden models, which have been introduced into this edition; the author now adopts Groth's nomenclature.

In the earlier edition, although Miller's notation was used as well as Naumann's, preference was given to the latter; the reverse is now the case, with consequent improvement in simplification. Space, too, has been saved, which has been utilised for a fuller discussion of the physical properties of crystals. More attention is paid to the relation between crystalline form and chemical composition, in connection with which so great an extension of knowledge has taken place during recent years. The utility of the book would have been vastly increased had a chapter or two been devoted to some simple methods for determining the morphological and optical constants of crystals.

The printing and general appearance of this edition are all that might be expected of the well-known Jena publisher. G. F. H. S.

*A Hill Country: its Physical Features and their Significance.* By Russell F. Gwinnell. Pp. vi+26; with geological map. (London: George Philip and Son, Ltd., 1908.) Price 1s. net.

MR. GWINNELL has prepared a contoured relief model of a district in the northern Clyde basin on which contours are taken at each 250 feet, and the vertical and horizontal scales are the same. The pamphlet is intended to be used with the model, and together they form a general illustration of those physical features which constitute what is known as scenery. The model and booklet should prove of real service to those teachers of geography who base their teaching as much as possible upon experiment and observation.