

But all the world over the old dies hard, and the new has to struggle into birth so slowly that it is adult by the time it comes out, and the pioneers have to rough it. Logic will be the last science to submit to the sway of Darwinism, but there is no doubt that in the end it, too, will yield to the pragmatist followers of William James.

In addition to writing a large number of articles and reviews which have never been republished, James was the author of the following substantive works:—"The Principles of Psychology" (1890), the "Text-book of Psychology" (1892), "The Will to Believe" (1896), the Ingersoll lecture on "Human Immortality" (1898), "Talks to Teachers" (1899), probably the easiest and most delightful introduction to psychology extant, the "Varieties of Religious Experience" (1902), "Pragmatism" (1907), "A Pluralistic Universe" (1909), and "The Meaning of Truth" (1909).

DR. LOUIS OLIVIER.

DR. LOUIS OLIVIER, whose death we announced last week, was one of the best-known men of science in France, and had many friends also in Great Britain. He was only fifty-six years of age, and that the scientific world should have been deprived of his influence and activities when years of further work were anticipated has caused widespread regret.

For most of the following particulars of his career we are indebted to M. Louis Brunet. Louis Olivier was born at Elbeuf on June 29, 1854. He studied at the Museum of the Sorbonne, and obtained the degree of doctor of science in 1881, with a thesis entitled "L'appareil tegumentaire des racines," which was awarded the Bordin prize of the Paris Academy of Sciences. Entering Pasteur's laboratory, he carried on bacteriological work, which led to some valuable results, such as the reduction of sulphates by micro-organisms, and, in collaboration with M. Ch. Richet, the existence of various bacteria in the lymph and blood of healthy fishes. In 1888 he went to Havre as director of the municipal laboratory there, and to form a course in bacteriology for medical men.

But the work for which Dr. Olivier deserves the lasting gratitude of the scientific world was the foundation of the *Revue générale des Sciences pures et appliquées* in 1890. When making arrangements for the establishment of that journal, Dr. Olivier was kind enough to state that he desired it to have much the same scope and character as NATURE. Possessed of vast knowledge of men and matters in all departments of science, he was able to exercise sound judgment upon the numerous contributions submitted to him, and was successful in securing authoritative collaborators, not only in France, but also in other countries, to deal with subjects of wide interest and prime importance. During numerous visits to England, he obtained the active support of many men of science here, and they mourn his loss as that of a friend as well as of an editor.

At the outset, the *Revue générale des Sciences* was recognised as a substantial addition to the periodical literature of science. The outlook was wide, the contributors men of distinguished eminence and sound knowledge, and the subjects important; and the journal has maintained this character throughout its existence. As an example of the breadth of view, we may mention that arrangements were made by Dr. Olivier for special reports to be supplied to his journal of the meetings of the Royal Society of London and of other leading scientific societies in Europe. So far as we are aware, no other journal abroad gives such attention to the progress of science in Great Britain

as is still devoted to it by the *Revue générale des Sciences*.

In 1897 Dr. Olivier established a series of cruises which have enabled many of his countrymen to visit various places, with guides well acquainted with the aspects of scientific interest presented by them. Among the countries to which he thus introduced many travellers are Spitsbergen, the Canary Islands, Scotland, Egypt, and the Caucasus.

Though Dr. Olivier was not a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences, Prof. Bouchard, who presided at the meeting of the academy on August 16, expressed sorrow at his death, and this testimony to the esteem in which he was held was put on record in the *Comptes rendus*. This exceptional mark of honour shows the high regard in which Dr. Olivier was held in France, and we are sure that in our own country there is real regret that one whose life has been of such great service should have passed into silence while actively engaged in his work for the extension of scientific knowledge.

NOTES.

IN accordance with previous announcements, arrangements have been made to hold the autumn meeting of the Iron and Steel Institute at Buxton, on Monday to Friday, September 26-30. The following are among the subjects of papers to be brought before the meeting:—Electric steel refining, D. F. Campbell; manganese in cast iron and the volume changes during cooling, H. I. Coe; sulphurous acid as a metallographic etching medium, E. Colver-Glauert and S. Hilpert; the theory of hardening carbon steels, C. A. Edwards; the influence of silicon on pure cast iron, A. Hague and T. Turner; the preparation of magnetic oxides of iron from aqueous solutions, S. Hilpert; the utilisation of electric power in the iron and steel industry, J. Elink Schuurman; some experiments on fatigue of metals, J. H. Smith.

At the autumn meeting of the Institute of Metals, which is to take place in Glasgow on September 21-23, the following papers will probably be read:—The heat treatment of brass: experiments on 70:30 alloy, Messrs. G. D. Bengough and O. F. Hudson; some common defects occurring in alloys, Dr. C. H. Desch; shrinkage of the antimony-lead alloys, and of the aluminium-zinc alloys, during and after solidification, Mr. D. Ewen; the effect of silver, bismuth, and aluminium upon the mechanical properties of "tough-pitch" copper containing arsenic, Mr. F. Johnson; metallography as an aid to the brass founder, Mr. H. S. Primrose; magnetic alloys formed from non-magnetic materials, Mr. A. D. Ross.

A HITHERTO unknown region in New Guinea, near the central mountain range in Netherlands territory and west of the Fly River, has been visited by a Dutch explorer, Dr. H. A. Lorentz, who has published an account of the inhabitants. These, unlike the people found further west by the English expedition under Captain Rawling, are not pigmies, and most of Dr. Lorentz's description shows that they are not very far removed from the typical dwellers in the Fly River region. They wore no clothes, and lived in small huts about ten feet from the ground, as do some of the people of the Fly delta. As usual among the western Papuans, they used the bow and arrow, and had stone axes, the common weapon of all Papuans, until the advent of the white man. Mutilation was practised. The women cut off the middle finger of the left hand, the men removed the upper portion of one ear. This tribe was found to smoke and grow tobacco, which is not used on the coast of