

aldehyde-ammonia in absolute alcohol gives a crystallised picrate of the same base.—On a reaction peculiar to orthophenols, and on the derivatives of antimonypyrocatechol, by M. H. Causse.—On the nature of the combinations of antipyrine with aldehydes, by M. G. Patein.—Physiological and therapeutic effects of spermine, by M. Alexander Pœhl. The effects of the alkaloid are uniform, and consist in accelerating the phenomena of oxidation, thus favouring the elimination in the form of harmless products of several poisonous organic secretions.—Disappearance of lead poisoning by the partial substitution of metastannic acid in the putty used in glass polishing, by M. L. Guérout. The original putty contained 62 per cent. of lead; by the addition of metastannic acid the lead was reduced to 20 per cent. During the six years in which this modified powder has been used, there have been no symptoms of lead poisoning in any form, although, with the original putty, saturnine paralysis was frequent.—On some new colloidal substances, analogous to albuminoids, derived from a nucleo-albumin, by M. J. W. Pickering.—On the development of *Trombidion holosericeum*, by M. S. Jotrdain.—Observations on the *Rougets*, by M. P. Mégnin.—Researches on red granules, by MM. J. Kunstler and P. Busquet.—The formations included under the name of red granules appear to be due to a diffraction phenomenon, and have no morphological value.—On a ferment of cellulose, by M. V. Oméliansky.—On the decomposition of chloroform in the organism, by MM. A. Desgrez and M. Nicloux. Experiments are described tending to show that during anaesthesia by chloroform some carbon monoxide is produced by the action of the latter upon blood.—On some comparative results of ordinary clinical methods and fluoroscopic examination in pleuritic effusions, by MM. Bergonié and Carrière. The examination by means of the Röntgen rays is valuable in many ways as a supplement to the ordinary clinical methods.—Antagonism between the venom of the *Vespidæ* and that of the viper; the first vaccinates against the second, by M. C. Phisalix.—Permeability of the trunks of trees to atmospheric air, by M. Henri Devaux.—On the disease of chestnuts, by M. E. Roze.—Characteristics of a gas coal found in the northern coal field of New South Wales, by M. C. Eg. Bertrand.—On the fauna of the siderolithic Eocene beds of Lissieu (Rhône), by MM. Ernest Chantre and C. Gaillard.—Mechanical determination of the mean direction of the wind, by M. Louis Besson.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—On a Method of Determining the Reactions at the Points of Support of Continuous Beams: G. Wilson.—The Comparative Chemistry of the Suprarenal Capsules: B. Moore and Swale Vincent.—Memoir on the Integration of Partial Differential Equations of the Second Order in Three Independent Variables: Prof. Forsyth, F.R.S.—On the Biology of *Stereum hirsutum*, Fr.: Prof. H. Marshall Ward, F.R.S.—An Examination into the Registered Speeds of American Trotting Horses, with Remarks on their Value as Hereditary Data: F. Galton, F.R.S.—On the Thermal Conductivities of Pure and Mixed Solids and Liquids, and their Variation with Temperature: Dr. C. H. Lees.—Cloudiness: Note on a Novel Case of Frequency: Prof. Pearson, F.R.S.—On the Occlusion of Hydrogen and Oxygen by Palladium: Dr. Mond, F.R.S., Prof. Ramsay, F.R.S., and Dr. J. Shields.—The Relations between Marine, Animal, and Vegetable Life: H. M. Vernon.

LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Affinities of the Madreporarian Genus *Alveopora*: H. M. Bernard.—On West Indian Characeæ collected by T. B. Blow: H. and J. Groves.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Stereo-Chemistry of Unsaturated Compounds. Part I. Esterification of Substituted Acrylic Acids: Dr. J. J. Sudborough and Lorenzo Lloyd.—Formation and Hydrolysis of Esters: Dr. J. J. Sudborough and M. E. Feilmann.—A New Method of Determining Freezing Points of very Dilute Solutions: Dr. M. Wilderman.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS (Chemical Society's Rooms), at 8.—Accumulator Traction on Rails and Ordinary Roads: L. Epstein.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Elastic Properties of Steel Wire: Archer D. Keigwin.—The Elasticity of Portland Cement: W. L. Brown.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—The Physical and Ethnological Conditions under which Leprosy occurs in China, the East Indian Archipelago, and Oceania: Dr. James Cantlie.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19.

SUNDAY LECTURE SOCIETY, at 4.—Some Animal Co-operative Societies: Dr. Andrew Wilson.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.
IMPERIAL INSTITUTE, at 8.30.—Petroleum Sources of the British Empire: Boverton Redwood.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—A New Transmission Dynamometer: Prof. W. E. Dalby.
ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, at 8.—Photomechanical Printing in Connection with the Survey of India: Colonel Waterhouse.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, and SERIALS RECEIVED.

BOOKS.—Agriculture in some of its Relations to Chemistry: Prof. F. H. Storer, 3 Vols., 7th edition (Low).—A Run round the Empire: Dr. A. Hill (Sonnenschein).—Studies in the Psychology of Sex, H. Ellis. Vol. 1. Sexual Inversion (Watford, University Press).—La Pratique du Teinturier: J. Garçon, tome 3 (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—Annuario publicado pelo Observatorio do Rio de Janeiro, 1897 (Rio de Janeiro).—Whittaker's Mechanical Engineer's Pocket-Book: P. R. Björling (Whittaker).—All about Animals (Newnes).—Rainfall Tables of the British Islands, 1866–1890 (Eyre).—Das Problem der Krystallisation: A. Turner (Leipzig, Thomas).—Die Kraft und Materie im Raume: A. Turner, Fünfte Verle Auflage (Leipzig, Thomas).—Arii e Italic: G. Serg (Torino, Fratelli Bocca).—Meteorological Observations made at the Adelaide Observatory, &c., during 1894 (Adelaide).—Annuaire 1898: par le Bureau des Longitudes (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—Sir James Young Simpson and Chloroform (1811–1870): H. L. Gordon (Unwin).

PAMPHLETS.—Human Nature, its Principles and the Principles of Physiognomy: "Physicist." Part 1 (Churchill).—Of Atmospheres upon Planets and Satellites: Dr. G. J. Stoney (Williams).—On *Chlamydoselachus anguineus*, Garm., a Remarkable Shark found in Norway, 1895: R. Collett (Christiania).—Rainfall of the United States (Washington).

SERIALS.—Observatory, December, and Companion (Taylor).—Strand Magazine, December (Newnes).—American Naturalist, November (Philadelphia).—Mazama: a Record of Mountaineering in the Pacific North West, Vol. 1, No. 2 (Portland, Oregon).—American Journal of Science, December (New Haven).—Atlantic Monthly, December (Gay).—Bulletin de l'Académie Royale des Sciences, &c., de Belgique, 1897, Nos. 9 and 10 (Bruxelles).—Journal of the Anthropological Institute, November (Paul).—Journal of the Chemical Society, December (Gurney).—Engineering Magazine, December (222 Strand).—Astrophysical Journal, November (Chicago).—Monthly Weather Review, September (Washington).

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