

was submitted to distillation under reduced pressure. A liquid was isolated of the composition $C_9H_{10}O_2$, which proved to be the methyl acetal of phenyl-glycol. It was synthesised by heating phenyl-glycol and formaldehyde with dilute sulphuric acid on the water bath.—Action of the benzidine diazochlorides of ortho-toluidine and orthodanisidine upon acetylacetone, by M. G. Favrel.—On the reducing power of the tissues, by M. Henri Hélier. The reducing power of a tissue is defined as the quantity of oxygen that a gram of it is capable of removing from potassium permanganate to reduce the latter to Mn_2O_3 . The present paper gives data for the liver and pancreas.—The clinical exploration of the renal functions and of phloridric glycosuria, by M. Ch. Achard.—Action of the Turkish bath upon the internal organs, by MM. Bianchi and Félix Regnault.—On a hailstorm observed at Bizerte, by M. Voiellaud.—Barometric movements on the orthogonal of the meridian of the moon, by M. A. Poincaré.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—On the Reflection of Cathode Rays: A. A. C. Swinton.—On the Recovery of Iron from Overstrain: James Muir.—A Soil Bacillus of the Type of *Bary's B. megatherium*: Dr. W. C. Sturgis.
 ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Toxins and Antitoxins: Dr. Allan Macfadyen.
 MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On a certain Minimal Surface and on a Solution of $\nabla^2 V = 0$: T. J. Bromwich.—The Group of Linear Homogeneous Substitutions on m Variables which is defined by a certain Invariant: Dr. L. E. Dickson.—On the Complete System of Differential Covariants of a Single Pfaffian Expression, and of a Set of Pfaffian Expressions: J. Brill.—Groups of Order 2^3 : E. A. Western.—The Irreducible Concomitants of any Number of Binary Quartics: A. Young.—The Scattering of Electric Waves by an Insulating Sphere: A. E. H. Love, F.R.S.—The Figure of Jacobi with respect to a Linear System of Hyperquadrics: Prof. Schoute.
 INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Rules for the Regulation of the Wiring of Premises for Connection to Public Supply Mains: J. Pigg.—The Regulation of Wiring Rules: C. H. Wordingham.—The Institution Wiring Rules: R. E. Crompton.—(Continuation of Discussion, if time permits): Electric Traction by Surface Contacts: Miles Walker.
 INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 7.30.—Fifth Report to the Alloys Research Committee: Steel: Sir William C. Roberts-Austen, K.C.B., F.R.S.—Machinery for Book and General Printing: William Powrie.—Evaporative Condensers: Harry G. V. Oldham.
 CAMERA CLUB, at 8.15.—The Heat of the Moon: The Earl of Rosse, F.R.S.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—Motion of a Perfect Fluid: Prof. H. S. Hele-Shaw.
 ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 3.—Anniversary Meeting.
 PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—Annual General Meeting.—Address by the President.—An Ampere-Meter and a Volt-Meter with a Long Scale: Benjamin Davies. (This will probably be read by Dr. Lodge.)
 MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Annual General Meeting.
 INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Electrical Driving of Engineering Workshops: William Middleton.
 INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, at 7.30

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Mechanical Properties of Bodies: Lord Rayleigh.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE, at 8.30.—Cuba: Richard Davey.
 ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Exploration in the Canadian Rockies: a Search for Mount Hooker and Mount Brown: Prof. Norman Collie, F.R.S.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Morphology of the Mollusca: Prof. E. Ray Lankester, F.R.S.
 INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Lake Superior Iron Ore Mines, and their Influence upon the Production of Iron and Steel: Jeremiah Head and Archibald P. Head.
 ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, at 8.—The Arabs of the Indian Frontier: Sir T. H. Holdich, R.E., K.C.I.E., C.B. (With Lantern Illustrations.)—Exhibition of Photographs by J. Guthrie Watson.
 ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Annual Meeting.
 ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, at 8.—Annual General Meeting.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—The Balloon as an Instrument of Scientific Research: Rev. John M. Bacon.
 ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 7.30.—Report on the Phenological Observations for 1898: Edward Mawley.—The Circulation of the Atmosphere: Prof. W. M. Davis.
 ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Preceded at 7.30 by an Exhibition of Objects shown by Multiple-Colour Illumination: Julius Rheinberg.
 ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.
 OXFORD UNIVERSITY SCIENTIFIC CLUB, at 8.—Chemical Theories under Discussion about the Year 1850—some Personal Reminiscences.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—*Probable Papers*: On the Reflex Electrical Effects in Mixed Nerve and in the Anterior and Posterior Roots: Miss Sowton.—The Characteristic of Nerve: Dr. A. D. Waller, F.R.S.—Observations on the Cerebro-spinal Fluid in the Human Subject: Dr. St. Clair Thomson, Dr. L. Hill, and Prof. Halliburton, F.R.S.—The Thermal Deformation of the Crystallised-Normal Sulphates of Potassium, Rubidium, and Cæsium: A. E. Tutton.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Toxins and Antitoxins: Dr. Allan Macfadyen.
 LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Genus *Lemna*, Gray, with an Account of the Branching Systems of the Order Alcyonacea: Gilbert C. Bourne.—On some African *Labiatae*, with Alternate Leaves: J. H. Burkill and C. H. Wright.—Report on the Marine Mollusca obtained during the First Expedition of Prof. A. C. Haddon to the Torres Straits: James Cosmo Melville and Robert Standen.
 CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Absorption Spectrum and Constitution attributed to Cyanuric Acid: W. N. Hartley, F.R.S.—Ballot for the Election of Fellows.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, and SERIALS RECEIVED.

BOOKS.—Recherches sur les Instruments les Méthodes et le Dessin Topographiques; Colonel A. Laussedat (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—Elementary Hydrostatics: C. Morgan (Rivingtons).—Die Welt als That: Dr. I. Reinke (Berlin, Paetel).—West African Studies: M. H. Kingsley (Macmillan).—Vaccination; its Natural History and Pathology; Dr. S. M. Copeman (Macmillan).—Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education. Proceedings of the Sixth Annual Meeting (Columbia, Mo.).—Elementary Physiology: B. Moore (Longmans).—An Introduction to the Differential and Integral Calculus and Differential Equations: F. G. Taylor (Longmans).—Instinct and Reason: H. R. Marshall (Macmillan).—The Human Body: Prof. H. N. Martin, 5th edition (New York, Holt).—A Junior Course of Practical Zoology: A. M. Marshall and C. H. Hurst, 5th edition (Smith, Elder).
 PAMPHLETS.—Licht, Elektrizität und X-Strahlen: R. Mewes, Zweite Ausgabe (Berlin, Krayn).—Sprachregeln für die Bildung und Betonung Zoologischer und Botanischer Namen: P. Kretschmer (Berlin, Friedländer).—Dietary Studies in Chicago (Washington).
 SERIALS.—Contemporary Review, February (Isbister).—Photogram, February (Dawbarn).—Physical Society of London, Proceedings, January (Taylor).—Transactions of the Natural History Society of Glasgow, Vol. v., n. s., Part 2 (Glasgow).—Natural Science, February (Pentland).—Humanitarian, February (Duckworth).—Scribner's Magazine, February (Low).—National Review, February (Arnold).—Knowledge, February (Witberby).—Fortnightly Review, February (Chapman).—Journal of Botany, February (West).—L'Anthropologie, tome ix. No. 6.—Observatory, February (Taylor).—Geographical Journal, February (Stanford).—Record of Technical and Secondary Education, January (Macmillan).—Zeitschrift für Physikalische Chemie, xxviii. Band, 1 Heft (Leipzig).—Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society January (New York).—Monthly Weather Review, October (Washington).

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
A History of Coal Mining. By Prof. H. Louis . . .	337
An Atlas of Bacteriology. By Dr. A. C. Houston . . .	338
Our Book Shelf:—	
Norman: "The World's Exchanges in 1898: a Reckoner of Foreign and Colonial Exchanges."—G. H. B.	339
Anthony: "Lecture Notes on the Theory of Electrical Measurements."—D. K. M.	339
Veley: "The Micro-organism of Faulty Rum."—Mrs. Percy Frankland	339
Fierz: "Les Recettes du Distillateur"	339
Letters to the Editor:—	
The Alleged Destruction of Swallows and Martins in Italy.—Prof. Henry H. Giglioli	340
The Hatching of Tuatara Eggs.—Prof. Arthur Dendy; Prof. G. B. Howes, F.R.S.	340
Attraction in a Spherical Hollow.—Prof. Andrew Gray, F.R.S.	341
Larvæ in Antelope Horns.—Richard Crawshay; Walter F. H. Blandford	341
Indian Solpugæ or Pseudo-Spiders.—H. R. P. Carter	342
Colouring of Plants.—May Rathbone	342
The Origins of the Lines of a Cygni. (Illustrated.) By Sir Norman Lockyer, K.C.B., F.R.S.	342
High Electromotive Force. (Illustrated.) By Prof. John Trowbridge	343
Notes	345
Our Astronomical Column:—	
Comet 1898 VII. (Coddington-Pauly)	350
Eros (433)	350
The Sun's Heat	350
The Constitution of the Electric Spark. By Prof. Arthur Schuster, F.R.S., and G. Hemsalech	350
Mr. Balfour and Prof. Jebb on Technical and Secondary Education	352
Experimental Contributions to the Theory of Heredity. By Prof. J. C. Ewart, F.R.S.	354
Massive Lava Flows on the Sierra Nevada	355
University and Educational Intelligence	355
Scientific Serials	357
Societies and Academies	358
Diary of Societies	360
Books, Pamphlets, and Serials Received	360