

tions can be made on a uniform plan, the more accurate will be the results obtained.

In February 1897, M. Rabot published the first part of the present work on the variations of the lengths of glaciers in the temperate and Arctic regions, and since that time the subject has been taken up by several other enthusiastic workers, so that now important information has accumulated. Thus Prof. Erich von Drygalski has made a study of the glaciers in Greenland, Prof. E. Richter has worked at the glaciers in Norway, while Mr. Israel Russell has confined his attention to North America.

In the book before us M. Rabot brings together all the data concerning the measures and appearances of the glaciers in the Arctic and temperate regions, giving references in each case to the original source of information. In the last chapter he brings together the conclusions to which he has arrived, but the reader must be referred to the book itself for a full account of them. The main results may, however, be here briefly expressed, and they are as follows:—

Prior to the eighteenth century, glaciers were much less extensive than they are to-day. During the eighteenth century and up to the first years of the nineteenth, an enormous increase, surpassing the amplitude of a single variation, occurred. Glaciers invaded territories which had never been previously occupied. This increase was general and affected all those in the northern hemisphere. During the nineteenth century the variation was indecisive. In some regions a considerable increase followed by a slight diminution in glaciation was noted, while in others the glaciers, after having remained at a maximum up till nearly the end of the century, diminished slightly. In no part was there such a considerable regression observed as that recorded in the Alps during the last fifty years.

With regard to the question of the oscillations of the lengths of glaciers in consequence of the variations of climate, which Prof. Richter has indicated does occur in the case of the Alpine glaciers, M. Rabot suggests that our knowledge is at present too incomplete to settle such a point with certainty.

Before bringing these remarks to a conclusion it may be added that this important work adds much to the advancement of our knowledge of the secular variations of the lengths of glaciers, and M. Rabot is to be congratulated on the important part he has so successfully played in its production.

*Experimental Hygiene.* By A. T. Simmons, B.Sc., and E. Stenhouse, B.Sc. Pp. viii+322. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1901.) Price 2s. 6d.

In their preface the authors state that the value of an introduction to the scientific method in the school training of both sexes is now recognised. That is so; but the scope and treatment of this scientific matter is the subject of a considerable amount of controversy at the present time among different authorities. Certainly no more suitable means exist of illustrating physical and chemical laws than by demonstrating their operation in the ordinary every-day occurrences with which the student is familiar.

It is no exaggeration to say that without some scientific knowledge the intelligent appreciation of the principles of hygiene and domestic economy is impossible. The writers of the work are therefore to be congratulated on having undertaken it with so excellent a motive, and one turns with considerable interest to the subject-matter to see how far they may be judged to have attained their object.

By the authors' scheme each subject is dealt with by first describing a few simple experiments and their results, then the physical and chemical principles responsible for those results are explained, and lastly it is

pointed out how these principles are applied, or how they serve to explain certain every-day occurrences. At the end of each chapter there is a brief summary of the facts therein dealt with, and a series of exercises are then set out for the student. The book is well balanced throughout in its treatment of a large variety of scientific facts, and the matter is sound and well selected. The sole instance which we have noted in which exception may be taken to the teaching has reference to a simple means of filtering water. On pp. 148-149 the student is advised to clean a flower-pot and plug the hole at the bottom with a piece of sponge, then to place sand, with pebbles or charcoal, into the pot. Such a filter would not be efficient, and the householder would be safer if in his wisdom he preferred to drink the unfiltered water rather than make use of it.

The book concludes with an excellent chapter upon micro-organisms, where, in only nine pages, an account is given of those interesting growths which well meets the requirements of such a work. It is, in short, just sufficient to give the student an intelligent appreciation of what germs are. The book can be confidently recommended. It is of a handy size and well printed and bound.

*Dictionary of Philosophy and Psychology.* Edited by J. M. Baldwin. Vol. i. Pp. xxiv+644 (A—Laws of Thought). (New York: The Macmillan Co. London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1901.) Price 21s. net.

THIS long-promised work will be of the highest value to every worker in fields which are in any way touched by psychological or philosophical thought. The contributors are almost all men of the highest eminence in their subjects, and the general editor has long been known as one of the ablest of the younger American psychologists. Some of the longer articles (e.g. "Brain") are really scientific treatises in miniature; where brevity is possible the articles are most laudably brief. A particularly valuable feature of the work is the series of monographs on philosophical terminology (arts. "Greek Terminology," "Hegel's Terminology," "Kant's Terminology"), by Prof. Royce, of Harvard. The outward appearance and the typography of the book reflect the greatest credit on the publishers and the Oxford University Press.

The end of the alphabet is to be reached in vol. ii., and vol. iii. will consist of a series of full bibliographies of the various departments of philosophical and psychological literature. A. E. T.

*Die Vogelwelt des Amazonenstromes; Entstanden als Atlas zu dem Werke "Aves do Brazil."* Von Dr. Emil A. Goeldi (1894-1900). Part i. (Zurich: Polygraphischen Institut, 1900.)

WE have received from the Polygraphischen Institut of Zurich a copy of the first part of this atlas, which is merely a replica in German of the one noticed in our issue of August 22, 1901, under its Portuguese title of "Album de Aves Amazonicas." In fact, it is only the cover that has been altered, the descriptions of the plates themselves remaining in the original Portuguese. We have nothing to add to the remarks made in the notice referred to, except that the plates are excellent examples of three-colour printing.

*The Bettsworth Book. Talks with a Surrey Peasant.* By George Bourne. Pp. vi+325. (London: Lamley and Co., 1901.) Price 5s. net.

FROM a scientific point of view there is little of interest in this book, but as a realistic record of the thoughts and experiences of a Surrey labourer, reproducing more or less the dialect of the county, the conversations are certainly worth preserving. There is no attempt at fine