

fever and another series on the occurrence of peculiar proteid substances in the urine must also be noted.

Together with these positive results, there is necessarily included a mass of detail concerning results which proved negative. The writer has, further, added to his account of the experimental work performed a quantity of somewhat miscellaneous facts gathered in Para and elsewhere on the subject of yellow fever and malaria, with a general account of the sanitary condition of the town. But when it is remembered that the work of the expedition was in great part crippled by the illness of both and the death of one of its members, we can but congratulate the survivor on the work which was accomplished, regretting that opportunities were not forthcoming for carrying it to a further stage of completeness. Yellow fever is a disease which has long been a puzzle to sanitary science, but appears at the present day to be on the verge of explanation. An immense step in advance has been made by the discovery of its transference by the gnat; the complete solution of the problem must be attained by further investigations on the lines of those embodied in this report, and carried out by skilled and unbiased investigators such as those sent out by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

*Eyes Within.* By Walter Earle, M.A. Pp. 155. (London: George Allen, 1902.) Price 5s.

THIS little volume of poems contains some good references to Nature and her handiwork. We are led to realise the ever-changing condition of the earth's surface, and phenomena of many kinds are dealt with. Thus:—

“ See where upon a world-old mountain face  
Some mighty glacier has left its trace,  
A few faint scratches, all that marks to-day  
Time's agonies along his primal way.”

Allusions are also made to the great variety of changes always going on around us, and to the disturbing elements raging ceaselessly in the interior of the earth:—

“ Shri! crash of breaker plunging in the cave,  
The souging wind, waves grinding on the shore,  
Weird wail and scream of bird, set evermore  
In fuller diapason stern and grave.”

“ Crack, rent and crush of overwhelming rock,  
Steam bursting into flood of liquid blaze,  
A world vibrating with each thunder-shock,  
Suns setting in a pall of wreckage-haze.

All through the book we are struck with the delicate and subtle way with which common and every-day occurrences are referred to. Birds, flowers, insects, all have their due.

The author shows the true poetical spirit in many of his descriptions, and reveals to us the joy of possessing an eye which goes beyond the *outside* of the objects around it.

*Handbook of Instructions for Collectors.* Pp. v+137; illustrated. (London: Printed for the Trustees of the British Museum, 1902.)

WITH the view of obtaining the aid of naval and military officers, explorers, missionaries and others whose duty or inclination takes them to foreign lands in adding to the collections of the Natural History Branch of the British Museum, the Trustees have issued this excellent little handbook. It consists of a series of pamphlets describing the methods of collecting and preserving the various groups of animals, as well as plants, fossils and minerals. The different sections into which the book is divided have been written by members of the staff of the Museum, each of whom is a specialist in his own particular branch, and although the manner of treatment varies somewhat, each section is admirably adapted to its special subject, illustrations being introduced when necessary. The

section on mammal collecting is divided into two parts, one dealing with the larger and the other with the smaller forms, a feature of the former being the inclusion of a list of species specially wanted by the Museum. Birds and the lower vertebrates follow next, after which come the various invertebrate groups, the work closing with chapters on plant and mineral collecting. The book is of a size convenient to be carried in the pocket, and has the corners rounded off the better to withstand constant use.

R. L.

*The First Principles of Ratio and Proportion and their Application to Geometry.* By H. W. Croome Smith, B.A. Pp. iv + 32. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd.) Price 1s.

THE strict theory of geometrical proportion is difficult, and, with few exceptions, elementary students are quite unable to understand it. Opinions differ as to the compromise that is best suited for school teaching, and suggestions on this topic deserve careful consideration. Mr. Smith bases his method on the variation of two geometrical quantities; it is supposed that they vanish together and that any given increment of the one is associated with a fixed increment in the other; or, as he puts it, “when two variables change in such a way that equal changes in the one are accompanied *always* by equal changes in the other.” A theory of proportion which starts from this idea is necessarily imperfect, and ignores the most troublesome part of the subject; but it will probably serve very well as a provisional compromise. At any rate, Mr. Smith's book deserves a trial.

*Year-book of the Scientific and Learned Societies of Great Britain and Ireland.* Pp. viii + 295. (London: Charles Griffin and Co., Ltd., 1902.) Price 7s. 6d.

THE nineteenth annual issue of this handy book of reference does not deal with a single calendar year, but with an actual working year of the great majority of the learned societies. Consequently, there are here brought together the papers read before the chief scientific societies throughout the United Kingdom from October, 1901, to June, 1902. The list of societies included in the new volume seems fairly complete, but we notice that the Geographical Association is not mentioned.

*Papers on Etherification and on the Constitution of Salts.* By Alexander W. Williamson, LL.D., F.R.S. (1850-1856.) Alembic Club Reprints, No. 16. Pp. 62. (Edinburgh: Published by the Alembic Club. Edinburgh agent, William F. Clay. London agents, Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent and Co., Ltd., 1902.) Price 1s. 6d. net.

THE Alembic Club is doing valuable work by reprinting the accounts of classical researches in science in the words of the experimenters themselves. We are glad to know these reprints are increasing in popularity among teachers of science in schools where the “research” method of obtaining knowledge is encouraged. It is a matter for gratification, too, that this collection of papers, which have appeared in the publications of various scientific societies, has been printed during the author's lifetime.

*Dove Dale Revisited: with Other Holiday Sketches.* By the Amateur Angler. Pp. xiv + 130. (London: Sampson Low, Marston and Co., Ltd., 1902.) Price 2s. 6d. net.

THE amateur angler writes pleasantly of a beautiful country for which he has great affection. The volume is the seventh and concluding one of a series, and will encourage its readers to take an intelligent interest in animate and inanimate nature. The illustrations are numerous and exceptionally good.