

admitted to the Spa on the production of their tickets. It has also been arranged that the train shall stop at Castle Howard to enable any members to pay a visit, but it is understood that only a portion of the house and gardens will be available.

Harrogate, Brimham Rocks, and Pateley Bridge: conductor, Mr. W. Ingham.

Ripon, Studley Park, and Fountains Abbey.—The Marquess of Ripon has kindly promised to entertain a party of about 100 to luncheon, and the Mayor of Ripon will entertain the same party to tea.

Ilkley and Bolton Abbey.

Coxwold, Byland Abbey, Helmsley, Duncombe Park, and Rievaulx Abbey.—It is expected that the party will be entertained at Duncombe Park by the Earl of Feversham; conductor, the Rev. C. N. Gray.

Wensleydale; conductor, Mr. W. Horne.

Mount Grace, Guisborough, and Whorlton Castle.—Admiral Challoner has kindly invited the party to dinner, and it is expected that the Lord-Lieutenant of the North Riding will provide luncheon; conductor, Mr. F. J. Munby.

Driffeld, Kirkburn, Wetwang, &c.; conductor, the Rev. E. Maule Cole.

Aldborough and Boroughbridge.—Three steam launches have been engaged to convey the party; conductor, Mr. A. S. Lawson, who will provide luncheon and tea.

A small guide-book will be prepared for each of the above excursions. It is understood that there will be also the usual semi-private excursions arranged in connection with several of the sections.

The exhibition of South African photographs taken by the members last year promises to be of much interest. There is ample accommodation for it at the reception room, and an active committee has the matter in hand.

KEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE "miscellaneous information" supplied from the Royal Gardens at Kew has ever been welcome to botanists and to those concerned in the utilisation of vegetable products. The earlier publications of Sir William Hooker and of his son and successor, Sir Joseph Hooker, are full of interesting matter with which the botanical and horticultural Press of the day was, owing to limitations of space, hardly able to cope.

Of late years such was the pressure of administrative duties that the publication of the Bulletin became very erratic. So much was this the case that we had almost given up the hope of seeing anything but "appendices" to volumes that seemed never destined to appear. In this we were mistaken. Within the last month or two we have received for notice the Kew Bulletin for the years 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, and 1905.¹

Some of these volumes are of exiguous proportions, but there they are, and the troubles of librarians and bibliographers are, in so far, set at rest. Much of the information is, of course, far from being up to date, and in some cases the gentlemen mentioned as having been appointed to fill certain positions have paid the debt of Nature before their nomination has thus been made public.

In spite of these circumstances we can but rejoice that the publication has been resumed, and that the sequence of the volumes is no longer interrupted. The contents are so "miscellaneous" that they do not lend themselves to anything like systematic review. We can only put the books on our reference shelves and welcome the fact, not only that the old gaps are, to some extent, filled up, but that there is now every prospect of the regular issue of that Bulletin to

¹ "Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information." Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. (H.M. Stationery Office, 1900-05.)

which we look for an official record of the manifold and most important work done at Kew.

A "Catalogue of Portraits of Botanists Exhibited in the Museums of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew," by Mr. James D. Milner, clerk and acting assistant-keeper and secretary to the National Portrait Gallery, has also just been published. The catalogue is introduced with a preface by the late director of the Royal Gardens. To botanists it forms a very interesting, but, we must add, a very incomplete list. Kew probably possesses a much larger number of portraits than are here mentioned, so that it is difficult to understand on what principle the selection has been made. The words "exhibited in the museums" do indeed imply that there are other portraits not thus displayed, but unless we are mistaken, or unless some re-arrangement has taken place recently, there are not a few hanging on the walls of the museums which are not included in the list. At any rate, we look in vain for any mention of the Balfours, father and son, of John Ball, of Broome, Babington, B. C. Clarke, Casimir de Candolle, W. T. Thiselton-Dyer, Eichler, Engler, A. Dickson, Farmer, Gardiner, Munro, Miers, Prain, Reichenbach, Seemann, Williamson, and many others whom it would be tedious to enumerate. No doubt many of these are "kept in portfolios," and can be inspected on application, but the absence in the catalogue before us of even the names of these more or less distinguished botanists gives an impression of serious incompleteness which is probably not justified by the facts. This is the more unfortunate as the collection is stated to be "probably unique." If so, the catalogue is very inadequate, as may be seen, not only by the few illustrations we have cited, but also by comparison with Dr. Wittrock's much fuller "Catalogus Stockholmiensis." The text, too, requires revision. In one place we are told of a bust wearing spectacles, and of another bust "in a ruff and fur-lined coat." On another page we are told of a botanist who graduated eighteen years before he was born!

There are other indications of imperfect proof-reading, to which we direct attention in the hope that the defects may be remedied in a subsequent edition. The catalogue, even in its present condition, is of such great interest that we cannot doubt that no long time will elapse before a second edition is called for, and one which can readily be made more representative of the progress of botany, especially in our own country.

BARON C. R. VON DER OSTEN SACKEN.

SYSTEMATIC entomology has sustained a great loss by the death of Baron Osten Sacken, as announced in NATURE of May 31.

Baron Osten Sacken was born at St. Petersburg on August 21, 1828, and at the age of eleven his interest in entomology was aroused by his meeting, at Baden-Baden, a young Russian entomologist, Mr. Shatiloff, who gave him his first instructions in collecting Coleoptera. Between 1849 and 1856 he held an appointment in the Imperial Foreign Office, and published papers on the re-classification of the Tipulidæ, as well as a list of the insects of the St. Petersburg district excluding Lepidoptera. His appointment, in 1856, as secretary of the Russian Legation at Washington opened up the second period of his entomological career in the United States. In 1862 he was appointed Russian Consul-General at New York, a post which he resigned in 1871, remaining, however, in America until 1877.

During this period of twenty-one years the main