

*The British Journal Photographic Almanac*, 1909. Edited by George E. Brown. Pp. 1336. (London: Henry Greenwood and Co., 1908.) Price 1s. net.; cloth 1s. 6d.

As each year begins to draw to an end, so this very excellent friend of the photographer makes its appearance. While the style of the volume remains the same, the text, sandwiched in between a mass of advertisements, will be found most useful material for the worker. Among some of the numerous subjects dealt with may be mentioned the epitome of progress since the last issue, while the recent novelties in apparatus are full of interest. The usual tables, both chemical and optical, together with the numerous formulæ for the principal processes, form, as usual, an important part of this publication, not forgetting the calendar, directory of photographic societies, and particulars of the chief photographic associations which are not included in the above directory.

The frontispiece is a coloured portrait of the late Mr. Thomas R. Dallmeyer, from a painting by Sandys, the three colour blocks having been made and printed by Messrs. Hood and Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.

The great number of advertisements is quite a unique feature of this publication, and the capital indices render them easy to refer to. The volume should naturally find a place in every studio or laboratory where photography is practised.

*The American Annual of Photography*, 1909. Vol. xxiii. Edited by John A. Tennant. Pp. xlv+328. (New York: Tennant and Ward; London: Dawbarn and Ward, Ltd., 1908.) Price 5s.

THE twenty-third issue of this annual is a volume which will be welcomed by all photographers. It is bristling with a great number of original articles on many subjects, most of which are admirably illustrated. These are for the most part written in a very clear manner, and summarise in a small space the particular speciality of the individual writers. Thus, Mr. A. Radclyffe Dugmore leads off with "Camera Hunting for Big Game," while Mrs. H. C. Sutherland writes about "Animal Photography." "The Photography of Lightning" is dealt with by Mr. Howden Wilkie, with some interesting photographs, and Mr. W. J. Farthing treats of "The Camera in Natural History Research."

In addition to the many articles mentioned above, the volume includes some excellent reproductions of photographs taken by well-known workers.

At the end are gathered together a typical collection of formulæ and tables, the former being selected from the methods of practical photographers. The strong binding and general character of the book reflect great credit on the editor and his co-workers, and the volume should find a home in every photographic studio.

*Beiträge zur Naturdenkmalpflege*. Heft i. and ii. Edited by Prof. H. Conwentz. (Berlin: Gebrüder Borntraeger, 1907-8.)

IT will be remembered that Prof. H. Conwentz, editor of the above publication and Prussian Commissioner for "Naturdenkmalpflege," delivered an address on "The Preservation of Natural Monuments" (*NATURE*, vol. lxxvi., p. 556) before a joint meeting of Sections K, C, D, and E at the Leicester meeting of the British Association. In this address Prof. Conwentz explained what was meant by "Naturdenkmäler," and also the aims and objects of the Prussian State Department for their preservation. The above periodical is the official organ of the department for *Naturdenkmalpflege*. The first Heft is subdivided into two main parts. The first part deals with the administration of the de-

partment. The second part shows the progress which has been made in the care and preservation of natural monuments.

The main object of the department seems to be directed towards getting the public and private landed proprietors interested in the preservation of all things of natural interest which are in any way threatened with extinction or obliteration. Prof. Conwentz, the head of the department, has travelled over the greater part of the State, and held personal interviews with local authorities, heads of departments of public and other bodies, societies and individuals who are at all likely to be interested in the movement, and, further, a great many lectures have been given all over Germany, and, indeed, in several other countries, in order to stir up public interest in the care and preservation of natural monuments, which is probably the most potent factor of all.

An appendix at the end of the Heft contains much useful information in a very concise form, showing the constitution and function of the State Department for *Naturdenkmalpflege*. This first number covers the year from April 1, 1906, to March 31, 1907. The demand for copies was so great that a new impression was necessary.

Heft ii. of the *Beiträge* covers the period from April 1, 1907, to March 31, 1908. It is arranged on the same lines as the previous number, but shows by its size and the amount of new matter it contains that great progress has been made. Many *Naturdenkmäler* have been catalogued, mapped out, and placed under proper care and supervision. Details of these are given, but care is taken that localities or stations where very rare plants or animals occur are not made public, as it would no doubt defeat the object of the department to let collectors and dealers know of such places. The appendix shows what recent legislation has taken place, and gives other useful information, which appears desirable or necessary for every co-worker.

The *Beiträge* will appear from time to time, but not at definitely stated intervals, and the size and price may also vary with each new issue.

A. W. B.

*Die periphere Innervation; Kurze übersichtliche Darstellung des Ursprungs, Verlaufs und der Ausbreitung der Hirn- und Rückenmarksnerven.* By Dr. Emil Villiger. Pp. 110. (Leipzig: W. Engelmann, 1908.) Price 6 marks.

THE manifestations of disease are made so frequently through the nervous system that there can be no doubt of the utility of such a book as this, which seeks to give the clinician a brief and clear description of the anatomy and physiology of nerve paths as a solid basis for diagnostic purposes. It is an elementary book representing well-known facts to serve the purpose of the medical man, its main interest to British neurologists lying in the fact that it represents the modern teaching of German and Swiss medical schools. From a medical point of view the most important part of the nervous system is the sympathetic, by which the viscera are brought into close touch with the central and peripheral nervous system, and by which visceral disease is so frequently reflected, but the sympathetic system is altogether excluded from Dr. Villiger's book. The sensory nerve supply of the body wall, of the pleura and peritoneum is also omitted. The levator palatæ is still described as receiving its nerve supply from the facial nerve. On the other hand, the segmental nerve supply of the muscles of the body and the muscular incoordinations and disturbances which follow lesions of the central nervous system are well described.