matique" (1736). He was a very active observer at the Paris Observatory from 1666 to 1682, and his observations, which were chiefly made with a 9-ft. quadrant, were finally printed in Le Monnier's "Histoire Céleste" (1741). Though his work was less showy than that of his colleague Cassini, Picard deserves an honourable place in the ranks of astronomers as one of the comparatively few observers with instruments of precision in the period between Tycho Brahe and Flamsteed, and as the pioneer in the application of the telescope to this work.

Robin's Water-music.

By PROF. W. GARSTANG.

SCARCE heard amid the choral throng
That gave the Spring its greeting,
You triumph, Robin, when your song
Marks Summer's joys retreating;
Then, while the green leaves flame to gold,
And rain drips o'er their embers,
You raise, above the sodden mould,
The song of all Septembers.

Erratic, wistful, sweet and shrill,
The grave and gay you mingle,
As changeful as the trickling rill
That voices glade and dingle,—
From high to low,
Now swift, now slow,
Like water o'er the pebbles,
Meandering here,
And darting there,
To sparkle in the trebles.

Chir'ri-tew! Ir'ri-tew!
Wis'-yoo, Wis'-yoo!
Wee'!—Swee'!—Tew-ay'!
Tew, tew', tew, Psee'!
Chirri-wee'! Tyo-to'!
Se-Wis'sy-wissy, Wis'sy-wissy, Wee'!

Until, in soft soliloquy,
You enter realms more tender,
And drop, from heights of ecstasy,
A falling trail of splendour,—
Brilliant gems no casket treasures,
Crystal tones no music measures,—
A glittering, flickering, tinkling streamlet,
Fragile as a dream.

See, See', See, TSEE'. . . !
Choo-it'ty, Tu-it'ty, Choo-it'ty, Tu-it'ty, Choo-ee'!
Wee-chee'! Wee-tsee' . . . !
Che-wir'rio-ir'rio-wir'rio-ir'rio-ee'!
As rockets soar
Aloft to fall in twinkling disarray,
As fountains pour
To break adrift in showers of glistering spray.

* * *

Tit-it'! Tit-it-it-it'! Tit'! Tit'!
Yes, Robin, yes! I must admit
(*Tit-it'-it-it'! Tit-it'-it-it'!*)
My actions were suspicious,—
For no true gardener stops his spade
To hear a little bird's cascade
Of music, though delicious!
But when, enraptured, down the scale
You dance by steps so slender,
The Nightingale's *Tyo-tyo'-tyo-tew'*,
The Throstle's *Tirra-lirra-loo*,
Grow pale
Before your rich chromatic splendour!

Notes.

THE following is a list of those recommended by the president and council of the Royal Society for election to the council at the anniversay meeting on November 30:—*President:* Prof. C. S. Sherrington. *Treasurer:* Sir David Prain. *Secretaries:* Mr. W. B. Hardy and Mr. J. H. Jeans. *Foreign Secretary:* Sir Arthur Schuster. *Other Members of Council:* Mr. J. Barcroft, Sir William Bragg, Dr. A. W. Crossley, Prof. J. B. Farmer, Sir Walter Fletcher, Prof. A. Fowler, Dr. A. C. Haddon, Sir Robert Hadfield, Sir Thomas Heath, Prof. J. Graham Kerr, Prof. H. Lamb, Sir William Leishman, Dr. S. H. C. Martin, Prof. J. W. Nicholson, Mr. R. D. Oldham, and Prof. W. P. Wynne. Prof. Sherrington, who is to succeed Sir Joseph Thomson as president, is the Waynflete professor of physiology in the University of Oxford, and was formerly professor of physiology in the University of Liverpool and Fullerian professor of physiology at the Royal Institution. He was elected F.R.S. in 1893, and was awarded a Royal medal in 1905 for his researches on the central nervous system.

DR. E. H. GRIFFITHS has been elected general treasurer of the British Association in succession to the late Prof. John Perry. The council of the Association has agreed to the formation of a separate Section of Psychology, as recommended by the Sections of Physiology and Educational Science at Cardiff, and approved by the general committee. Consideration of the number and scope of the various Sections is to be referred to a special committee. It has been decided to invite national Associations for the Advancement of Science to send representatives to annual meetings of the British Association in future.

THE council of the British Association has recently had before it the suggestion made by Prof. Herdman in his presidential address at Cardiff for a new *Challenger* expedition for the exploration of the great oceans of the globe with modern instruments and