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MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended
for review should be sent to the Editor of SCIENCE, Garri-
son-on-Hudson, N. Y.

THE CONTINUOUS ADVANCE OF ELECTRO-
CHEMISTRY.

The field of electrochemical activity
covers three distinct lines of endeavor:
First, the investigation and classification
of electrochemical phenomena—scientific
progress; second, the formulation of a
satisfactory and all-comprehensive elec-
trochemical theory—intellectual progress; and
third, the application of these facts to in-
dustrial ends—industrial progress. We
purpose to discuss briefly this evening the
past achievements in each of these lines of
endeavor, in order to determine therefrom
and to discuss more at length the present
bent and probable future direction and ex-
tension of each.

I. THE INVESTIGATION AND CLASSIFICATION
OF ELECTROCHEMICAL PHENOMENA.

This is, properly speaking, the real
corner-stone of progress in electrochemical
science. What has been accomplished in
this direction in the century and a half
since Beccaria 'revivified' several metals by
Leyden-jar discharges may be found scat-
tered through the files of our technical
journals and compiled from time to time
into compendiums of electrochemical litera-
ture. The most pretentious, and in many
respects the most timely, of all these works
is the 'ausführliches Handbuch,' which our
German friends are at present patiently
compiling. A careful study of this work
causes surprise both at the large amount
of investigation which has been done and
at the large gaps which exist in our
experimental knowledge. Alongside of
splendid researches into the most obscure
phenomena of the science exist lacunæ in