SCIENCE


FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1898.

CONTENTS:

Zoology and the Philosophy of Evolution: Professor W. K. Brooks...........................................881
Fermentation without Living Cells and Synthetic Protein: Dr. H. W. Wiley.................................893
The Feeling of Being Starved At: Professor E. B. Titchener.....................................................895
What is Sciurus variegatus Erxleben? E. W. Nelson.................................................................897

Notes on Physics:
Transformer Design; Underground Electric Currents in New York City; High-Voltage Power Transmission: W. S. F.................................................................898
Notes on Inorganic Chemistry: J. L. H.................................................................899

Current Notes on Anthropology:
Russian Ethnography; Argentine Ethnography; The Ethnological Survey of Canada: Professor D. G. Brinton.........................................................901
Scientific Notes and News.........................................................902

University and Educational News.........................................................905

Discussion and Correspondence:
Anlage or Proton?: Professor Charles Sedgwick Minot. Is the Beech Pet Poison?: John Murdoch.................................906

Scientific Literature:
Encyklopädie der Mathematischen Wissenschaften: Professor George Bruce Halsted. Darwin on The Tides: R. S. W. Gage's Elements of Physics: W. Le Conte Stevens. Van't Hoff's Légons de chimie physique: Professor Harry C. Jones. Moore's Laboratory Directions for Beginners in Bacteriology: Dr. Wm. H. Park. General.........................................................907

Scientific Journals.........................................................916

Societies and Academies:

New Books.........................................................920

ZOOLOGY AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF EVOLUTION.*

"I have nothing to say to any Philosophy of Evolution. * * * Attempts to construct such a philosophy may be useful, but in my judgment they are premature."—Huxley: "Collected Essays," V.

The facts given in the last two lectures seem to show that we cannot expect much from the 'Lamarckian factors,' even if they should prove to be factors; and while this impression may be wrong, it seems to be the rational frame of mind until it has proved wrong.

He who follows the current literature of zoology finds that many writers assure him, in effect, that the years which Darwin and Wallace gave to hard labor on the problem of species were thrown away, since all they tried to find out by hard work might have been deduced from the Philosophy of Evolution.

We were warned, long ago, that "whoever, unable to doubt and eager to affirm, shall establish principles, and, according to the unmoved truth of these, shall reject or receive others, * * * he shall exchange things for words, reason for insanity, the world for a fable, and shall be incapable of interpreting."

In 'philosophy' current history is sometimes ancient history, and the ardent dis-