

SCIENCE

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CONTENTS:

<i>On the Distribution of Marine Mammals</i> : P. L. SCLATER.....	741
<i>Former Extension of Cornell Glacier near the Southern End of Melville Bay</i> : T. C. CHAMBERLIN.....	748
<i>Suggestions for a New Method of Discriminating between Species and Subspecies</i> : C. HART MERRIAM.....	753
<i>The National Academy of Sciences</i> :—	
<i>On the Variation of Latitude ; The Variation of Latitude at New York and a Determination of the Constant of Aberration from Observations at the Observatory of Columbia University ; Notes of Experiments upon the Röntgen Rays</i>	758
<i>The American Association for the Advancement of Science</i> : F. W. PUTNAM.....	760
<i>The Congress of American Physicians and Surgeons</i>	761
<i>Zoological Notes</i> :—	
<i>Color Change in the Plumage of Birds unaccompanied by Mout</i> : F. A. LUCAS.....	762
<i>Notes on Inorganic Chemistry</i> : J. L. H.....	763
<i>Astrophysical Notes</i> : E. B. F.....	764
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i> :—	
<i>Legislation on the Forest Reservations ; The Bequests of the late Professor Cope ; General</i>	764
<i>University and Educational News</i>	768
<i>Discussion and Correspondence</i> :—	
<i>On Supposed Effects of Strain in Telescopic Objectives</i> : ALVAN G. CLARK. <i>The Loess Formation of the Mississippi Region</i> : OSCAR H. HERSHEY.....	768
<i>Scientific Literature</i> :—	
<i>Ridgway on Birds of the Galapagos Archipelago</i> : C. H. M. Wiesbach and Hermann on the Mechanics of Pumping Machinery: R. H. T.....	770
<i>Scientific Journals</i> :—	
<i>The Journal of Comparative Neurology</i>	773
<i>Societies and Academies</i> :—	
<i>Chemical Society of Washington</i> : V. K. CHESNUT. <i>Zoological Club of the University of Chi-</i>	

<i>cago</i> : WILLIAM MORTON WHEELER. <i>The New York Academy of Sciences: Subsection of Anthropology and Psychology</i> : LIVINGSTON FARRAND. <i>The St. Louis Academy of Sciences</i> : WILLIAM TRELEASE.....	774
<i>New Books</i>	776

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Prof. J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF MARINE MAMMALS.*

I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

MOST of the recent writers on Geographical Distribution have confined their attention to terrestrial mammals, or, at any rate, have but casually alluded to the marine groups of that class. On the present occasion I wish to call your attention to some of the principal facts connected with the distribution, over the world's surface, of the marine, or aquatic, members of the class of mammals.

Aquatic mammals, which pass their lives entirely, or, for the greater part, in the water are, of course, subject to very different laws of distribution from those of the terrestrial forms. As regards aquatic mammals, land is, of course, an impassible barrier to their extension, and, subject to restrictions in certain cases, water offers them a free passage. Just the opposite is the case with the terrestrial mammals, to which, in most cases, land offers a free pas-

* Read before the Zoological Society of London on March 16th.