

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1898.

SOME OF THE FUNCTIONS AND FEATURES OF
A BIOLOGICAL STATION.*

CONTENTS:

<i>Some of the Functions and Features of a Biological Station:</i> C. O. WHITMAN	37
<i>Recent Progress in Agricultural Chemistry (II.):</i> H. W. WILEY.....	44
<i>The Montreal Meeting of the Geological Society of America.</i> J. F. KEMP.....	48
<i>The Section of Anthropology at Ithaca:</i> W J MCGEE	53
<i>Alonzo S. Kimball:</i> T. C. M.	54
<i>Current Notes on Physiography:—</i> <i>Milne on Suboceanic Changes; Hatcher's Explorations in Patagonia; The St. Croix Dalles, Minn.:</i> W. M. DAVIS.....	56
<i>Current Notes on Anthropology:—</i> <i>The Unity of the Human Species; Local Ethnographic Collections; Racial Geography of Europe:</i> D. G. BRINTON.....	57
<i>Scientific Notes and News:—</i> <i>The United States Fish Commission; The Washington Academy of Sciences; The Swedish Arctic Expedition of 1898.....</i>	58
<i>University and Educational News.....</i>	63
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i> <i>The Third International Congress of Applied Chemistry; Proposed Sylvester Memorial:</i> RAPHAEL MELDOLA. <i>Travel and Transportation:</i> O. T. MASON. <i>'Time Wasted':</i> X. <i>Zoology at the University of Chicago:</i> C. O. WHITMAN. <i>Information Desired:</i> F. A. LUCAS.....	64
<i>Scientific Literature:—</i> <i>Schneider's Text-book of General Lichenology:</i> CHARLES E. BESSEY. <i>Noyes' Organic Chemistry:</i> JAMES F. NORRIS.....	68
<i>Societies and Academies:—</i> <i>The Alabama Industrial and Scientific Society:</i> EUGENE A. SMITH. <i>Anthropological Society of Washington:</i> J. H. MCCORMICK. <i>Geological Society of Washington:</i> W. F. MORSELL.....	70
<i>New Books.....</i>	72

I HAVE a few considerations to offer on a subject not quite new, but perhaps not without some interest, to a Society of Naturalists. The subject may be stated in the form of a question: What are some of the more essential functions and features to be represented in a biological station? This question is one that may fairly claim the attention of a society organized for 'the discussion of methods of investigation and instruction, and other topics of interest to investigators and teachers of Natural History; and for the adoption of such measures as shall tend to the advancement and diffusion of the knowledge of Natural History.'

I know of no other organization in this country in which the different sides of biology are more fully and widely represented, and no other in which the discussion of such a question as I have stated has been more explicitly invited.

The question before us, as you perceive, is one of ideals, something which we can construct without the aid of an endowment, and probably without any permanent loss of protoplasm. And yet, what I have in mind is not wholly imaginary, for it has

*Address of the President of the Society of American Naturalists prepared for the Ithaca meeting, 1897, but not delivered, owing to the unavoidable absence of the writer.

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