

medicine or been introduced accidentally? By what channels do they leave the body, and how may their exit be accelerated?

Chemistry (Dr. Allman).—1. In the decomposition of water by an electric current, mention the pole of the battery (platinum or zinc) at which each of the liberated elements makes its appearance. 2. What is the arsenic of commerce? In what relation does it stand to the element of that name? Write down its formula. 3. What is the chief difference, as regards their constituents, between the ashes of marine and land plants?

Natural Science (Dr. Allman).—*Zoology*.—1. Give generally the geographical distribution of the *Trochilidæ* (humming birds). 2. By what special features are many of the insects inhabiting remote oceanic islands characterised? 3. Refer to its proper sub-kingdom and class each of the following genera of animals:—*Mytilus*, *Argonauta*, *Holothuria*, *Actinia*. *Botany*.—4. How do plants differ from animals as to the source whence they derive the proteids of their tissues? 5. Refer to its natural order a plant with the following characters, and give one or more examples:—Flowers gamopetalous, crowded on a receptacle and surrounded by an involucre. Stamens five with the anthers united into a tube. Ovary coherent with the calyx, one-celled. Fruit with a simple erect seed. 6. Contrast the inflorescence of the fig with that of the mulberry. *Physics*.—7. How would you express the apparent loss of weight suffered by a body weighed in water? 8. How are icebergs formed? 9. What is the relation of the length of a pendulum to the time of an oscillation?

SALICYLIC ACID.

DR. CHOPIN (*Journal de Médecine et de Chirurgie pratiques*) has found from his investigations that salicylic acid, when the kidneys are healthy, increases the quantity of urine, but in acute nephritis diminishes it. In all abnormal conditions of the kidneys he has found that the acid is retained in the system, and that toxic effects are liable to be produced by even small doses.

CHLORALAMIDE.

In addition to its value as an hypnotic, chloralamide is declared, on the authority of Dr. Alt (*Wiener medicinische Blätter*), to be a specific for chorea. Fifteen grain doses given thrice a day completely cured a boy eleven years of age of a severe attack of chorea.

CORRIGENDUM.

In Dr. Alexander Harkin's paper on "The Vagus Treatment of Cholera," in the Number of this Journal for March, 1890 (Vol. LXXXIX., No. 219, Third Series), page 227, line 2 from the top of the page, omit the preposition "to" before the words "be scientifically treated."