

Literary Notices.

HAND-BOOK OF MINERALOGY.—By S. K. Hitchings, State Assayer of Maine, and Director of Canadian Postal College of Natural Sciences, Biddeford, Me.

This is a handy little volume for the use of beginners. In about 10 pages the author gives all the general instructions in the use of the blowpipe and the application of chemical and physical tests necessary to enable the learner to proceed in the determination of minerals. In as far as the work extends it is complete, but we cannot but wish that the author had extended its scope somewhat to include a description of a typical series of common minerals that could be easily obtained by the student and would serve as a starting point from which he could go on to the determination of less familiar species. In connection however, with the author's series of papers on descriptive mineralogy, now current in the MONTHLY, this little book is most valuable.

Besides the 10 pages mentioned above, the book contains about 50 pages of blank schedules which the beginner can fill out as he proceeds in the examination of specimens. Teachers will find this little book valuable to themselves and just the thing to place in the hands of their pupils.

Contemporary Journals.

SCIENCE, Jan. 16.—Man in the stone age; Recent advances in electrical and medical science, Some recent experiments with oil in stopping breakers. Jan. 23.—The muskrat carnivorous; The Peabody museum at New Haven; River pollution in England; Bark louse secretion; Recent Russian Geographical explorations.

POPULAR SCIENCE NEWS, February.—Easy Chemical experiments; A fish eating plant; The origin of opium; The regeneration of the potato.

THE AUK, Jan.—On the breeding habits of some Arizona birds; Bird names of the Selish, Pah—Uta, and Shoshoni Indians; Anitoban Notes; The nesting habits of the Cape May Warbler; Field notes from Pictou Co., Nova Scotia; Swainson's Warbler; The Heath Hen of Massachusetts.

THE NATURALISTS' WORLD.—Preparation of microscopic objects before mounting; The Culbin sands; The study of Geography as allied to Natural History.

Exchange Department.

I have Garnets in Granite, Syenite (rare kind), Tourmaline, Bladed Actinolite, Kyanite, Staurolite, Spec. from Gold Mine, Milky Quartz, Graphic Granite, Cancrinite, all from Maine; Sandstone from Germany. Will exchange for Minerals, Shells and Corals. Write first.

Mrs. Alice L. Nay,
So. Windham, Cumberland Co.,
Maine.