

perceptibly in the latter, even when the $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch objective was in use.

Now I purposely abstain (for obvious reasons) from naming the Makers of these two instruments. But I think it well to say this much, in order to meet the possible objection, that the difference lay rather in the *workmanship* of the two instruments than in their *plan of construction*,—that the advantage, if any, lay on the side of the Ross model. And my own very decided conviction is, that the adoption of the principles of the Jackson model would be decidedly advantageous, alike for *first-class* Microscopes, in which the *steadiness of the image* when the highest powers are being employed ought to be a primary consideration,—for those *second-class* instruments, which are intended, at a less cost, to do as much of the work of the first-class as they can be made to perform, *portability* being here of essential importance,—and for those *third-class* instruments in which everything has to be reduced to its simplest form, so as to permit the greatest reduction in their cost. — *Dr. W. B. Carpenter, in Transactions of the Royal Microscopic Society.*

— Mr. J. Gwyn Jeffreys, who had just returned from the south of Europe, after having accomplished his part of this year's deep-sea exploring expedition in H.M.S. *Porcupine*, stated that in this cruise he had dredged across the Bay of Biscay, and along the coasts of Spain and Portugal to Gibraltar. The weather had not been favourable; but the depth reached was 1,095 fathoms. A large collection of Mollusca, Echinoderms, Corals, Sponges, and Hydrozoa, had been made. Half a-dozen specimens of a beautiful new *Pentacrinus* (*P. wyville-thomsoni*) had been taken in 795 fathoms depth, between Vigo and Lisbon. Both Northern and Mediterranean species of shells were met with.

— Congress has granted \$30,000 for the erection of a Government Winter Garden, either at New York or Washington, somewhat similar to that at Kew, but on a smaller scale. This will partake partly of the nature of an economic garden, in which useful plants can be raised and then disseminated far and wide throughout the States.