

to be in many places the altered remains of olivine rock, not only contain asbestos, the mineral of the day, which is not attacked by fire, but that we will find them, in a close future, affording also the mineral which the greatest heat and pressure of our laboratories could not yet produce, the diamond.

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BOOK NOTICE.

ARTIFICIAL KEYS TO THE GENERA AND SPECIES OF MOSSES in Lesquereux and James's Manual of the Mosses of North America; by Charles R. Barnes; pp. 72; 1890.

Under the above caption Prof. Barnes has published in the Transactions of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences (and also separately) a most useful article. After the Ferns there is perhaps no order of plants which is more invariably admired by those who love nature than the Mosses; their study, however, has been almost impossible owing to the want of an intelligible work which could be used by a beginner. In this way many who might have had their attention drawn to the study of botany by these beautiful objects, have been lost to the science. For botanists, unlike poets, need not be born botanists, but can be made by accident or training. By the publication of Prof. Barnes's pamphlet a great obstacle to the study of mosses is removed, and we feel sure that many of our members will now avail themselves of this opportunity. This should be particularly the case with our local members, for we have in Prof. Macoun, who is always courteous and willing to help beginners, the highest Canadian authority upon mosses. The above mentioned pamphlet is well printed, and sewed so as to open flat, and can be obtained through the editor for 50 cents a copy. J. F.

NEW MEMBERS.

Bethune, Rev. C. J. S., <i>M.A., D.C.L.</i>	Ross, Niles G.
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