

publicity of all the preliminary preparations were such as to ensure the greatest fairness and opportunity to all. The matter of nomenclature was in charge of a special committee appointed at the Paris Congress in 1900. Long before the meeting of the Congress, this committee invited all Botanists to send in their ideas and suggestions as to nomenclature, and months before the meeting the committee published a large volume in which they gave all these suggestions, together with the rules adopted in earlier congresses and other matter germane to the subject. This volume was sent to all persons who were to take part in the nomenclature discussions of the Congress. The Congress met in June, and there were present more than five hundred Botanists. Of these about one hundred were specialists in classification and nomenclature, and took part in the discussions upon the latter subject. They represented, as officially-appointed delegates, all the principal botanical societies and institutions of the world, and of these delegates sixteen were Americans. The various proposals made by the different schools and individuals were debated through six days. In most cases the important questions were debated and voted upon separately, and even in cases where groups of related questions were voted upon in block, every member had the right to call for separate discussion and vote upon any single matter. I do not see how anything could possibly have been fairer. And the result in the two matters most at issue between the Grayan and Neo-American schools was this. In regard to the Kew Rule, the Congress decided in the main against the Grayan school, though with a reservation in its favor in the case of such names as have had their rank (from variety to species or vice versa) changed in transference. On the other, and more important question, the decision was wholly in favor of the Grayan and against the Neo-American School; for while not adopting the Berlin Rule as such, the Congress sanctioned as correct a list of familiar and long-established generic names, including practically all those at issue between the two schools. This action of the Congress is comparable to that of Legislatures, when they legalize by special enactment certain acts, marriages, etc., which are in equity correct though with some flaw in their title. Some of the other decisions of the Congress on minor points also went heavily against the Neo-American School, though hardly any other point went against the Grayan School.

So much for the decisions of the Congress. What effect will they probably have upon this troublesome

subject of confused nomenclature? Of course nobody is in any way legally bound to follow the decisions of the Congress, but whether any Botanists who have the good of the Science at heart, and especially any of those who took part in the Congress can honorably ignore its decisions is another question. Of the two American Schools, one at least has left us in no doubt as to its intentions. The leaders of the Grayan School have announced that they will loyally conform to all the decisions of the Congress. The partial abandonment of the Kew Rule will necessitate, they estimate, some fifteen percent of changes in the names of the Sixth edition of Gray's Manual, but the future editions of that Manual, and all the publication from the Gray Herbarium, we are assured, will follow the decisions of the Congress. The leaders of the Neo-American school, so far as I know, have made no announcement of their intentions, but I cannot question that they also, having made a gallant fight for principles in which they believed, will accept the issue in the spirit both of true sportsmen and of public spirited scholars, and will likewise conform their usage to that of the Congress. Thus we may look forward to an end of that confusion in nomenclature which has been not simply an annoyance, but an actual impediment to the further progress of botanical knowledge.

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The answer to each of these enigmas is the name of an English Author.

Makes and mends for customers?—Taylor.

Dwellings of civilized countries?—Holmes.

A head-covering?—Hood.

What an oyster heap is likely to be?—Shelley.

A very tall poet?—Longfellow.

More humorous than the former?—Whittier.

A worker in precious metals?—Goldsmith.

Always a pig?—Bacon.

A disagreeable foot affection?—Bunyan.

A domestic servant?—Butler.

A strong exclamation?—Dickens.

A young domestic animal?—Lamb.

An Englishman's favorite sport?—Hunt.

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A young teacher says: I have found the REVIEW well worth the subscription price to the young and inexperienced teacher, keeping him in touch with the work, ideas and methods of his fellow teachers.—F. J. P.