

the electrode in straight lines, and is capable of throwing a shadow (of a piece of mica, &c.,) surrounded by a brilliant fluorescence. Tubes containing gems, as diamond, ruby, emerald, topaz, etc., were illustrated in this way with most beautiful effect. The rectilinear light is also capable of producing mechanical effects, and these were demonstrated. One of the most beautiful experiments was that in which a tube of potash was fused into a perfectly vacuous globe provided with electrodes. The vacuum acted as a complete non-conductor, but as the potash tube was treated and a little moisture generated, the striæ began to appear. As the potash tube cooled, and the moisture was re-absorbed, the phenomena proceeded in reverse order.

Professor Cox went on to state the theories which have been promulgated to explain the appearances referred to; but our space will not permit us to attempt any exposition of these. But it would be inexcusable to omit stating that the whole field opened up by Crooke's and more recently investigated by Lenard, Roentgen and others, is really very imperfectly explored as yet, and may be expected to yield rich treasure as research progresses.

DECEMBER 17TH, Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society.—

"*Goethe*." By Prof. Leigh R. Gregor, M.A., Ph.D., (Heidelberg), of McGill University, Montreal.

Before introducing the lecturer (Dr. Gregor) to the audience. Mr. O. J. Klotz, who was chairman on this occasion, seized the opportunity and on behalf of the members of the two societies under whose auspices the lecture course was organized, disclaimed publicly their having had anything whatever to do with a certain item which had appeared in the daily press of the Capital reflecting upon the suitability of the hall for public lectures. The hall is most eminently fitted and particularly well adapted for courses of free public lectures like these.

Dr. Gregor's valuable lecture was greatly appreciated by the large audience present.