the amount of difference in intensity between the sensations.

Dr. Livingston Farrand, in a paper on *Primitive Education*, discussed methods of training and general education among primitive peoples in their bearings on primitive conceptions of morality, taking up the general condition of the child in the savage community and more particularly the relations of the child and parent.

The question of education was discussed under three heads: (1) the natural training which the child obtains by natural reaction on his environment and without definite instruction by his elders; (2) the practical education where the child is definitely instructed in the arts which will be of use to him in his later life and (3) his ethical education. Attention was called to certain phases of the subject where observations are particularly faulty or altogether wanting.

Dr. Franz Boas spoke on the *Correlations of Anthropometric Measurements*. He pointed out that when any two biological measurements are considered as correlated, and individuals showing a certain value of the first measurement are grouped together, then the average of the values of the second measurement for the group of individuals will also be changed, but to a less degree than the first. When, however, the grouping of individuals is made according to social aspects, then all the measurements change either proportionately or according to laws differing from the one quoted before, the reason being that in the second grouping a certain set of causes influence all the measurements in the same manner. By applying this principle it is possible inversely to determine social causes that produce certain anthropometric peculiarities, as in groupings which are made according to the proportions and to the absolute values of measurements combined, the social classes will be represented in varying proportions.

LIVINGSTON FARRAND,
Secretary of Sub-section.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB
WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 29, 1896.

THE Club met as usual in Hamilton Hall, with President Brown in the chair. There were present 64 persons.

Dr. Britton reported a successful field meeting at Prince's Bay, S. I., on April 25th, it being the first of the season.

Major Timothy E. Wilcox's paper, 'Botanizing in Arizona,' was then read. It was drawn from experience during four years residence at Fort Huachuca and was devoted to climate, seasons and topography, as well as descriptions of some of the little known plants of that locality. Botany was treated from an economic standpoint as well as otherwise. Lantern slides from original photographs were exhibited. Also slides showing other scenes were introduced.

Mr. Cornelius Van Brunt then rapidly showed a number of colored lantern slides of plants growing in Central Park, accompanying them with short descriptions and anecdotes. Most of these slides had not been exhibited before. Mr. Van Brunt described the method of coloring these slides by the use of aniline colors applied by hand.

W. A. BASTEDO,
Secretary pro. tem.

GEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY, APRIL 14, 1896.

On the Function and Systematic Importance of the Aptychus in Ammonites. By C. R. EASTMAN.

The speaker described the nature and mode of occurrence of the aptychus, and exhibited several specimens with the aptychus preserved in the so-called 'normal position' and also directly at the aperture. The numerous theories regarding its function were discussed, principal attention being paid to the nidamental and operculate theories. The Dundry, Crimean and Solenhofen specimens described by Owen, Retowski and Michael, respectively, were next discussed, and these were shown to prove, beyond all doubt, the operculate function of the aptychus. The fact that aptychi do not represent the calcified head cartilage of Dibranchiates was used as an argument against Ihering's proposition for associating Ammonites with the latter group. The viviparous habit of Ammonites, as indicated by the discovery of a number of minute aptychi and shells within the living chamber of *Oppelia steraspis* was commented upon, and attention called to the fact that in the Upper Jurassic Ammonites, which were then entering upon their decline, the de-