the meteorite the name under which it was originally described, rather than that of the nearest locality. Priority is thus deemed of more importance than geographical position, and a somewhat elaborate defense of this course is given in the preface. Its advisability may, however, be questioned, especially as it causes many American falls to be named from counties rather than from towns.

In the second appendix a list of known meteorites by countries is given, a work which, like the catalogue as a whole, affords information of great usefulness to students of meteorites.

O. C. F.

7. *The Eruption of Colima.* (Communicated by F. L. SPERRY.)—"The volcano of Colima in Mexico has been recently in eruption and the following data in regard to it may be of value to students of volcanic phenomena. They were obtained during a recent visit to the city of Zapotlan, Jalisco, Mexico. The volcano is about 100 miles from the west coast and about 25 miles from Zapotlan. Its height is about 12,500 feet and it is a well known landmark. The history of the volcano according to residents of the city is as follows: There was a great eruption accompanied by earthquakes on Oct. 22d, 1742. The next was on March 25th, 1806, with heavy earthquakes which destroyed a church, killing 2,000 of the inhabitants who had sought refuge there. In 1856 there were several eruptions and earthquakes which destroyed houses in Zapotlan, Tuxpan and other places within a radius of 30 miles. The volcano was smoking last July, sending up pillars of steam high in the air, at irregular intervals. At 12.30 p. m. Feb. 18th, 1903, the inhabitants of Zapotlan were startled by a mighty roaring accompanied by slight shocks and the fall of ashes. This was repeated Feb. 20th at 12.30 p. m. At 4 p. m. Feb. 24th there came a fearful eruption with showers of ashes, which shrouded the city in darkness for three hours. These eruptions continued every three or four days until March 9th, when the greatest spectacle of all took place and the material of the eruption was thrown into the city. The fine ash and gases formed a very solid column reaching high in the atmosphere, which remained intact for more than an hour.

On March 10th this spectacle was repeated, then the volcano remained dormant until March 23d at 1 p. m., when there was an eruption which continued for half an hour accompanied by wonderful spectacular effects. Since then the volcano has remained quiet."

(A specimen of the volcanic ash of the eruption of March 9th, collected in Zapotlan and sent to the editors by Mr. Sperry, shows a light gray andesitic material averaging about 1^{mm} in diameter. Examination with the microscope reveals a mass of minute lapilli-like particles angular to subangular, in part vesicular, in part consisting of solid particles of feldspars. The vesicular portion is sometimes of glass but mostly of lithoidal lava. It is too fine to be called lapilli and is rather coarse for "ash." The

fact that material of this nature could be driven the distance from the volcano to the city testifies to the violence of the eruption.)

L. V. P.

8. *Report on the Eruptions of the Soufrière in St. Vincent in 1902, and on a Visit to Montagne Pelée, in Martinique, Part I*; by TEMPEST ANDERSON and JOHN S. FLEET. Phil. Trans. Royal Soc., Series A, vol. cc, pp. 353-553, pls. 21-39.—The first part of the report by Doctors Anderson and Fleet contains the following chapters: Physical Features and Geology; the Eruption of May 7th; the Eruption of May 18th; Rains; Geological Effects of the Eruptions; Previous Eruptions of the Soufrière; the Soufrière and Montagne Pelée; Comparative study of the Peléan type of Eruption; General Sequence of volcanic phenomena in the Antilles and Central America in the early part of 1902. The account is full of interest and the illustrations are of very high order.

9. *Megablattina Sellards (non Brongniart): A Correction*. (Communicated by E. H. SELLARDS.)—The name *Megablattina* proposed for a new genus of cockroaches from the Coal Measures in the April number of the current volume of this Journal, p. 312, I now find to be preoccupied, having been applied by Brongniart in 1885 to an insect from the Saarbrücken Basin, Germany, previously described by Goldenberg under the hemipterous genus *Fulgorina*. I now suggest for the American genus the name *Archoblattina*.

Yale Museum, May 5, 1903.

10. *The Fauna and Geography of the Maldive and Laccadive Archipelagoes*. Edited by J. STANLEY GARDINER. Vol. I, Part IV, pp. 347-471, 43 figs., 4 pls.—This completes the first volume (this Journal, xiii, 321; xiv, 74; xv, 240). Appendices B and C conclude Mr. Gardiner's valuable reports on the Coral Reefs. Others on the Cephalochorda and Lithothamnium are of especial interest. C. F. Cooper gives two species of *Amphioxus*,—the West Indian *Asymmetrum lucayanum* (Andrews), which is very common, and the new and rare form, *Heteropleuron Maldivense*; also some undetermined larvæ. R. C. Punnett gives interesting results of his study of the "Meristic variation" of the group, showing that increase in number of gonads is associated with decrease in number of segments, and suggests that *genetic selection* may prove a factor of importance in modifying these features. M. Foslie reports nine forms of the little known calcareous algæ (Lithothamnium), none having ever before been recorded from the area between the Red Sea and the East Indies. H. Gadow and J. S. Gardiner give a list of twenty-six birds. F. E. Beddard records three species of earthworms, one of which is new. L. A. Borradaile continues his study of the marine crustaceans, reporting on the Brachyura, proposing one new genus *Selwynia*, type *Selwynia lævis* new, and the Cirrhopedia. W. F. Lanchester reports on the Stomatopoda.

K. J. B.