paper, on 'An Ascent of Mt. Whitney, California, with Notes on the Geology.' Mt. Whitney, with an altitude of 14,625 feet, claims the distinction of being the highest peak in the United States. It is a mountain of high relief in a rugged country. The easiest way to the summit is by a five-day journey skirting the canyons from the southwest. Sedimentary rocks are not met with in this part of the Sierras, near Mt. Whitney. The country rock is a deeply weathered granite, split up by countless joint planes. Mt. Whitney exhibits the effects of glacial sculpturing, and holds many small lakes in the cirques, adjacent to its top, which have resulted from ice undercutting. Professor Hallock also described a lava flow with cinder cones on Volcano Creek, Cal. Lantern slides were used to bring out these features, and to illustrate the topography.

Professor Kemp read the second paper, on 'The Leucite Hills of Wyoming.' Before giving an account of his work in this region with Professor Wright, of Wyoming University, he described the mineralogical and petrographical features of the leucite rocks as they occur in America, and referred to their discovery in Wyoming by the members of the 40th Parallel Survey. These rocks were originally described by Dr. Zirkel. The speaker then called attention to Dr. Cross's more extended work in the district. His own contribution had to do with the general geology of the Leucite Hills. As many as seventeen separate mesas and buttes isolated by erosion have been mapped, representing in most cases single extrusive and intrusive flows of these rare rocks. They are found in sandstones near the top of the Cretaceous, and their distribution and field relations tend to confirm the view that they are volcanic outpourings at different times from a laccolithic reservoir of great extent, which is nowhere exposed at the surface. Lantern slides were used in illustrating the geology, and specimens of the rocks in question were exhibited.

GEORGE I. FINLAY,
Secretary pro tem.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY GEOLOGICAL JOURNAL
CLUB.

February 13.—The concluding discussion of the new classification of the igneous rocks was opened by Professor Kemp. It was actively participated in by members of the club. The educational aspect of the subject was particularly considered.

Dr. Julien reviewed two short papers from a late number of the *Bulletin de la Société Géologique de France*.

February 20.—Mr. D. W. Johnson reviewed a paper by W. M. Davis on the 'Fresh-water Tertiary Formations of the Rocky Mountain Region,' and then gave a paper on the 'Fluvial Origin of the Santa Fe Marls in New Mexico.' This paper aroused much discussion. Dr. A. F. Rogers exhibited some specimens of galena showing multiple twinning.

February 27.—Dr. Julien reviewed several papers in a late number of the *Bulletin de la Société Géologique de France*, especially an essay by H. Douvillé on the 'Revision and Distribution of Orbitolites and Orbitoides from the Chalk.' Professor Grabau reviewed a late paper by Mr. Schuchert on the 'Lower Devonian and Ontarian Formations of Maryland.'

H. W. SHIMER.

THE CONNECTICUT BOTANICAL SOCIETY.

The society was organized in New Haven, January 24, 1903, and the following officers elected:

President—Professor Alexander W. Evans.

Vice-President—Dr. C. B. Graves.

Recording Secretary and Treasurer—Dr. E. H. Eames.

Corresponding Secretary—Mr. E. B. Harger, Oxford, Conn.

For the compilation of accurate information towards a catalogue of the flora of the state, a committee on the higher plants was appointed, while another on the lower cryptogams remains to be selected.

The former committee consists of Dr. C. B. Graves, New London; Dr. E. H. Eames, Bridgeport; Mr. C. H. Bissell, Southington; Mr. L. Andrews, Southington; Mr. E. B.

Harger, Oxford, and Mr. J. N. Bishop, Plainville.

Several papers were heard with great interest, followed by much discussion on these and botanical matters in general. It was also decided to hold field meetings at intervals through each season, more thoroughly to study the flora of the state, and give additional stimulus to the prosecution of careful work in this direction.

Withal, the meeting was very enjoyable, and indicated a permanently active organization.

Thirty-one members were accepted as organizers of the society and the probability of greatly increased membership is already apparent.

E. H. EAMES,
Secretary.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE 368th meeting was held Saturday, March 7.

F. A. Lucas exhibited some lantern slides made from photographs taken by R. H. Beck, showing groups of several hundred specimens of *Conolophus cristatus*, one of the two large lizards found on the Galapagos Islands. Mr. Lucas stated that Mr. Beck had taken a large number of photographs showing the more striking features of the fauna and flora of those islands.

Frederick W. True spoke on the 'Attitudes and Movements of Living Whales,' illustrating his remarks by lantern slides showing whales as depicted in books and as they actually appear in life. The species discussed were the large whales pursued for commercial purposes, and the speaker showed that there was considerable discrepancy in the accounts of observers as to their behavior. Under this was included the form and height of the spout, the movements of tail and flippers, duration of stay beneath the surface and method of descending, or 'sounding.' Various observations were plotted on a large diagram, and attention was called to the fact that the closest agreement as to facts was found in observations made on the bowhead and sperm whales, the two species that had been longest hunted and were best known. It was suggested that

with better knowledge of other species there would be better correspondence of the observations concerning them.

O. F. Cook presented 'Some Biological Aspects of Liberia,' exhibiting a number of views of the more characteristic features of the flora and describing in detail some of the more interesting trees and plants. It was stated that the oil palm was the only African palm not represented by some species in South America, and attention was called to the fact that this palm was not found in a wild state. Where it seemed to occur wild, observation showed that the spot had formerly been inhabited and the species was preserved and disseminated by the agency of man.

F. A. LUCAS.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PUBLICATION OF REJECTED NAMES.

IN the issue of SCIENCE for January 30, 1903, p. 189, Professor T. D. A. Cockerell, under the above caption, calls attention to what he regards as adequate publication of rejected manuscript names by Mr. Banks and myself. As Professor Cockerell very well says, there is evidently a misconception or divergence of opinion among naturalists on this point that it is well worth while to discuss. I have taken the trouble to submit my particular case to some forty workers in systematic biology, and the 'various and sundry' ways that have been suggested for handling the question are certainly surprising, showing that the practice in such cases is by no means uniform. A large number, mainly zoologists, hold that my printing of Lesquereux's manuscript name *Carya globulosa* before the one I intended to give the organism was merely of the nature of narrative or explanation, and did not have the effect of validating the manuscript name. The intent of the author, it is said, is to be respected, and as it is perfectly clear that I intended to name it *Cucumites Lesquereuxii* and not *globulosa*, they hold that *Cucumites Lesquereuxii* stands. Others take an exactly opposite view, namely, that because I printed the manuscript name first and followed it by a description of the