

synonyms by different tribes, as well as from a real dialectic difference between the languages from which they were derived.

4. In order to afford a test for discriminating between dialects, the generic terms must contain within them those sounds which are differently affected by the phonetic laws of each dialect.

5. Applying this test, the generic terms in Scotch topography do not show the existence of a Kymric language north of the Firths of Forth and Clyde.

6. We find in the topography of the north-east of Scotland traces of an older and of a more recent form of Gaelic. The one preferring labials and dentals, and the other gutturals. The one hardening the consonants into *tenués*, the other softening them by aspiration. The one depositing Abers and Invers simultaneously, the other Invers alone. The one a low Gaelic dialect, the other a high Gaelic dialect, the one probably the language of the Picts, the other that of the Scots.

3. On the Bands produced by the Superposition of Paragenic Spectra formed by the Grooved Surfaces of Glass and Steel. Part II. By Sir David Brewster, K.H., F.R.S.

4. Remarks on the Flora of Otago, New Zealand. By W. Lauder Lindsay, M.D., F.L.S., Hon. Member of the Philosophical Institute of Canterbury, New Zealand.

The North Island flora has hitherto been regarded (in the absence of a knowledge of the South Island flora) as representing the general vegetation of our New Zealand possessions. But the New Zealand Islands extend through thirteen degrees of latitude, and the floras of their northern and southern extremes necessarily present various marked differences. The former flora is more sub-tropical, and the latter more antarctic in its affinities. The former, moreover, is richer in natural orders, genera, and species.

Until very recently, however, comparatively little or nothing was known of the Otago flora, all collections previous to 1861 having been made on its coast, and with a single limited exception on its