

The California Earthquake of April 18, 1906. Report of the State Earthquake Investigation Commission. In Two Parts and Atlas. By Andrew C. Lawson and Others. Part I: xviii and 254 pp.; Part II: pp. 255-451, Maps, Seismograms, and Illustrations. Carnegie Institution of Washington, Washington, 1908. Price (2 Parts and Atlas) \$17.

The Atlas is noticed in the *Bulletin*, Vol. 41, p. 469. The Report has been everywhere recognized not only as an able and complete account of the California earthquake of 1906, but also as a very important addition to the literature of seismology. Although the Commission which made this investigation and report was appointed by the Governor of California, the State government provided no funds for the conduct of the work. The resulting embarrassment was finally relieved by a subvention from the Carnegie Institution.

Wissenschaftliche Ergebnisse der Expedition Filchner nach China und Tibet, 1903-1905. X. Band—I. Tiel. 1 Abschnitt: Zoologische Sammlungen. C. Attems, M. Burr, A. Forel and Others; 2 Abschnitt. Botanische Sammlungen. Prof. Dr. Diels. xii and 288 pp., Map, Illustrations, and Index. Ernst Siegfried Mittler und Sohn, Berlin, 1908.

The expedition of Lieut. Wilhelm Filchner to China and Tibet was remarkably fruitful in scientific results and was recognized by the German Geographical Congress with a special vote of thanks. Means were provided for the full presentation and discussion of these results and the volumes are now appearing, in sumptuous form, from the press of Mittler & Son. Eighteen specialists of Germany, Austria, Switzerland and England report, in the present volume, on the zoological collections. The botanical results, chiefly the work of the explorer's wife, are discussed by Dr. Diels in 28 pp.

La Figure de la Terre. Les grandes opérations géodésiques. L'ancienne et la nouvelle mesure de l'arc méridien de Quito. Capitaine G. Perrier. (Revue de Géographie annuelle. Tome 11.-1908.) vi and 307 pp., Maps, Illustrations, and Tables. Librairie Ch. Delagrave, Paris, 1909.

Captain Perrier of the Service géographique de l'Armée of France, gives to geographers in this volume a comprehensive account of the measurement of arcs of the meridian in Peru, Ecuador, Sweden, Spitzbergen, the United States, Canada, South Africa and other parts of the world, and the results of these labors. The work covers the development of geodesy in the past three centuries and shows the necessity for these great geodetic operations in order to establish the bases for exact topographic mapping. The author describes in detail the methods of measuring an arc of the meridian and the modern instruments employed. The bibliography with 97 titles will be found very useful.

Die Schwerebestimmung an der Erdoberfläche. Prof. Dr. Joh. Bapt. Messerschmitt. viii and 158 pp., 25 Illustrations and Index. Friedrich Vieweg & Sohn, Braunschweig, 1908. Price, M. 5.

One of the best works yet written on Gravitation and Gravity Determinations. The author, who is in charge at the Magnetic Observatory at Munich, describes the principles upon which the determination of gravity depend, the methods and apparatus used in observations and the importance of the study in investigations relating to the figure of the earth. The book is No. 27 of the natural science and mathematical monographs published under the general title of "Die Wissenschaft" by Vieweg & Son.