Longman, Green & Co. publish "An Attempt towards a Chemical Conception of the Ether," by J. Mendeloff, translated from the Russian by George Kunitzky. There is nothing new in the idea that the ether may be a chemical body. Mendeloff's turn of mind would naturally lead him to favor this view; but it cannot be denied that a review of the history of scientific hypothesis will show that it has been conceptions of this character—the realistic character—in favor of which experiment has usually decided. It is an interesting fact, too, that a man of Mendeloff's surpassing sagacity should have decided as he appears to be, that, if the ether is a chemical body, it is an uncombined element of the helium-argon group. It has long been as good as known that corpuscles, whose spectrum was so marked in the eclipses of August 5, 1861, is a chemical element, considerably lighter than helium. Mendeloff says its atomic weight "will be not greater than 9, and probably less." This would make its density about one-fifth that of hydrogen or one-seventh that of the air. He makes it possible, which, with little reason, he expects, beginning from helium, argon, krypton, and xenon—that in it, as it separates for the first time, as it was separated from lithium, potassium, rubidium, and cesium.

J. Clark Murray's "Introduction to Physiology" (Boston: Little, Brown & Co.) is simply our old favorite, the same author's "well-known and approved Handbook," in a new dress. The author thinks that so many parts have been so completely rewritten that "it would have been misleading to describe it as a new edition of the old book." Many will hold quite the reverse opinion. We do not recommend much retention and the enlargements amount, we should judge, to some 6 per cent. of the contents; certainly not to the double of that. The style appears to be everywhere judicious, and in half a dozen cases, it is, important, but the original dress of the book was more graceful and more likely to prove congenial to young persons. The new "Introduction," however, welcome.

Prof. Francis Carey's "Introduction to the Modern Theory of Equations" (Macmillan) demands attention as the only small treatise in the language unburdened with the whole subject and showing how best to treat higher algebra. The account of the Gaußian theory is concisely written from Weber's algebra, and so is the first (bring within the comprehension of every student a), especially in the consideration of complex numbers, for example. The edition goes through three and makes sure of perfectly familiarizing himself with the subject at an early point before going on to the next, and not so far as possible, so that at once it is clear and, of course, escaping the minds of the limits of the roots have been more liberally treated.

The geographical section connected with the French African army has published a large chart in seventeen sheets covering the whole country. This is still defective, giving only the bolder lines, but in the future it has been decided to prepare a large chart on the scale of 1:100,000, to consist of at least sixty parts. Special investigations are now being made for this purpose in the lower Senegal district, in the peninsula of Cape Verde, Dakar, and elsewhere. It will take many years to complete the work.

The next report is to be undertaken in the neighborhood of St. Louis, and an expedition is being prepared for the Ivory Coast.

Liehnowitz is on extremely primitive canvas, judging from the account by our correspondent, Mr. Edward Seton, of a recent journey into the interior published in the Con- tinental Reporter. There are no roads, and the means of communication between the villages in the dense forests or upon the tops of steep hills is only made possible by the aid of ladders and rafts. This is extremely difficult, and requires skill and expertise.

The forests abound in rich and valuable timber. Mineral wealth is abundant. Copper is indigenous, and the soil is partly cultivated, partly in the coffee and cacao, the amount and value of the crops are diminishing. The foreign trade in 1842 was only about half a million dollars (184,000), of one hundred thousand less than in 1809 (184,000). It is a significant fact, mentioned in another report, which is some measure of accounts for the lamentable drought, and that almost every living being excepting an American negro or his descendant is a Government official. Litleton, from Brown & Co., Boston, publish a new (fourth) edition of John Neffon's "Code Remedies," by Prof. Thomas A. Bough. The editor has added a multitude of cases (one thousand citations are given), and to obtain room, but also much in the way of omission and condensation. Nearly a third of the book is new. Mr. Pomory is one of the last of the legal writers of what may be called the old American school—men whose aim was nothing more spectacular or noted than the plain exposition of the law as they saw it. Mr. Pomory's style was admirably adapted to his work, and his great and numerous reports and opinions were compiled only with the advice of the draftsmen of the book was more graceful and more likely to prove congenial to young persons. They are not often written by the author of the book, and they are written by the best known and the best of the books.

Another law-book, published by the same house, which deserves more than ordinary notice, is a work in one volume by Gilbert G. Stevens on "Real Property." The author calls it the "price list of special subjects of the law of Real Property," but this is too modest a title, for it contains an outline of all real-property law, together with more detailed treatment of these special subjects, such as easements, covenants, covenants, leases, tenancies, powers, mortgages, and mortgages and mortgages, which occasion endless controversy and litigation. Unless we are mistaken, the student and practitioner will find here in a single volume what is dif-