

African Scientific and Hospital Station.—The International African Association has established a depot at Zanzibar, and an agency in the Unyamwesi, which will enable it to place its first scientific and hospital station on the borders of Lake Tanganyika, or still farther in the interior.—*Comptes Rendus.* C.

Detection of Butter-Adulteration.—To determine whether butter has been mixed with inorganic or animal fats, P. Jaillard places a thin film between two strips of glass and examines it microscopically. If the butter is pure, only fatty globules can be seen; if it is adulterated, there will also be crystalline ramifications in greater or less quantity.—*Les Mondes.* C.

Confirmation of Franklin's Electrical Theory.—Edlaud has investigated the electrical currents produced by the flow of liquids in tubes. He finds that the existence of the currents cannot be explained satisfactorily by Du Fay's hypothesis, but that it can easily be accounted for by the theory of excess or deficiency in a single fluid.—*Pogg. Ann.*, civi. C.

Domestic Use of Aluminum.—Recent experiments show that pure aluminum could be employed much more extensively than has generally been supposed, provided a cheap method was devised for procuring it. Spoons made from aluminum, from German silver, and from silver, were subjected for a year to constant use, under similar conditions. The resulting wear was 0.630 per cent. for aluminum; 1.006 per cent. for German silver; 0.403 per cent. for silver.—*Berg-u. Huetten-Zeit.* C.

Mousseron Brazier.—Abbé Moigno gives a detailed and interesting description of a brazier, invented by M. Mousseron (20, Boulevard des Filles-du-Calvaire, Paris), which may be used in close apartments without vitiating the air. Through the centre of the fire box, passes a tube pierced with holes, which admits a copious supply of air to the fuel, producing a vivid combustion, so that there is no production of carbonic oxide. The carbonic acid is absorbed by the vapor of water from a vessel near the top of the brazier, and escapes into the room in a harmless form. Numerous extracts are given from a report of M. Triboulet to the *Société Nationale des Architectes de France*, and the invention is pronounced "the easiest, the most universally applicable, the most economical and the most agreeable of all the known methods of warming."—*Les Mondes.* C.