

treatment of the subject of 'time.' Wundt would propose that a special agent, called a philosopher, should gather up all he can from everybody and should present it as he thinks best. So with all the other fundamental questions. The result is that we have as many systems of philosophy as we have writers. Would it not be better to get the astronomer to present his experience with time, then the physicist to present his, then the psychologist, and so on? The reader can then assimilate what he is able, instead of accepting it as previously assimilated by the philosopher, as a kind of 'predigested' food.

A somewhat similar thought was spoken by Paulsen some years ago. I do not know if he has stated it in print. He considered that the day of philosophical systems was past; there could be text-books of philosophy as well as text-books of all sorts of things, but philosophy itself would consist of monographs by specialists.

Of course, on such conditions as these, we should be obliged to conclude that philosophy has no relation to the sciences and that, having the astronomer, the mathematician, the physicist, the geologist, the psychologist, the economist and all the others, we can entirely dispense with the philosopher.

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'SCIENCE.'

[THE following article, contributed by one of the original supporters of SCIENCE, will prove of interest to those who are not acquainted with the earlier history of the journal. All men of science are under very great obligations to Mr. Bell and Mr. Hubbard for establishing a weekly journal of science in America at a time when the conditions were less favorable than at present; to Mr. Scudder for the high standard maintained during his editorship, and to

Mr. Hodges for his faithful and untiring efforts on behalf of the journal.

J. McK. C.]

IN 1882 Mr. A. Graham Bell conceived the idea of establishing a scientific journal, which should do for America what 'Nature' does for England. For this purpose, he was willing to contribute, with the coöperation of Mr. Gardiner G. Hubbard, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, which, in the estimation of good judges, would be sufficient to start a weekly paper and put it on a paying basis. Mr. Bell furnished the larger proportion of this sum. Mr. Samuel H. Scudder, of Cambridge, Mass., became the editor. President Gilman, of Johns Hopkins; Major Powell, of the Geological Survey; Professor Newcomb, of the Nautical Almanac; Professor O. C. Marsh, of New Haven; and Professor Trowbridge, of Columbia College, agreed to give their advice, and to act with Messrs. Bell, Hubbard and Scudder as a Board of Directors. This board, representing different interests and localities, possessed great weight with the entire community, and was believed to be generally acceptable to scientists.

The first number of 'SCIENCE' appeared February 9, 1883, some six or eight months subsequent to the conception of the idea. Mr. Moses King, the first publisher, retired the succeeding September. Shortly after, Mr. C. L. Condit, formerly with the 'Nation,' took charge of the publishing department and continued until the spring of 1886. Mr. Scudder retired from the editorship in 1885 and was succeeded by Mr. N. D. C. Hodges, when the office was removed from Cambridge to New York. It was soon found that twenty-five thousand dollars was not sufficient, and Messrs. Bell and Hubbard continued to advance further sums until, in 1886, they had expended about seventy-five thousand dollars, without having made the paper self-supporting.

An arrangement was then made with Mr.

Hodges to assume the entire charge of SCIENCE for a fixed annual sum. For three years M. Hodges had charge of the paper, under the advice of the Board of Directors. Mr. Hodges made large reduction in expenses of publication, but unfortunately made a larger reduction in the subscription price, from five dollars to three dollars and fifty cents a year.

It was never the intention of Messrs. Bell and Hubbard to make a profit from the publication of SCIENCE, but they did expect its establishment to make a contribution to science.

The circulation of the journal, under the management of Mr. Hodges, largely increased, and the changes made by him and his associate editors, Messrs. D. G. Brinton, of Philadelphia, and Charles Platt, of Baltimore, whose services were given gratuitously were of great value. It was originally supposed that advertisements would contribute largely to its support, but they were not obtained, partly on account of the limited circulation, and more largely because advertisers preferred to publish in special journals rather than in one intended to meet the wants of the scientific public.

The publication of SCIENCE was stopped for a time a year ago, although its circulation was then larger than it ever had been, the stringency of the times preventing many from paying their subscriptions.

At the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at Brooklyn in 1894, the renewal of the publication of SCIENCE was brought before the Association. A large committee was chosen to consider its usefulness, and the propriety of contributing towards its support. Mr. Hodges appeared and stated fully his views and plans; the Association then voted that a contribution of fifteen hundred dollars should be made for the purpose of enabling Mr. Hodges to continue its publication. Immediately after Mr. Hodges decided that

he could not continue the publication, and therefore this arrangement fell through.

Subsequently the reorganization of SCIENCE was undertaken by Professor Cattell, of Columbia College, who will, we trust, make it a success.

It would not be proper to close this article without an acknowledgment of the great ability, untiring zeal and never flagging interest shown by Mr. Hodges in his connection with SCIENCE.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### A CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

EDITOR OF SCIENCE:—The admirable plan for a card catalogue of scientific literature recommended to the Royal Society by the Harvard University Council (reprinted in the current volume of SCIENCE, pages 184–186) strongly commends itself to users of scientific literature, and has already been adopted with minor modification by at least one national scientific society. A slight extension of the plan in one respect would seem, however, to be advantageous.

The body of scientific literature is vast and constantly increasing, and scientific authorship and publication are rapidly extending from country to country and from point to point in each country throughout the world. Population is increasing, and with it writing and printing increase; civilization is spreading, and with it literature is expanding in an increasing ratio; science is becoming increasingly important as a directing and controlling force in civilization; and so the growth of scientific writing outstrips that of non-scientific scripture; the domain of science is widening rapidly as research concerning every conceivable subject pushes into and illumines the penumbra of half-knowledge; and thus the subject-matter of scientific literature is differentiated. Moreover, the fashion of scientific publication is changing; few recent investigators