

## UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

PROFESSOR W. A. SETCHELL, of Yale University, has accepted a call to the chair of botany in the University of California, vacant through the removal of Professor E. L. Greene to the Catholic University of Washington.

A SUIT has been brought by Yale University against Storrs College to determine the disposition of the Government appropriation (about \$20,000 a year) to agricultural colleges. This money was paid to Yale University from the time the fund was appropriated, in 1862, till it was diverted to the fund of Storrs College, in 1893. Since this date the money has been tied up by reason of the suit of Yale University to restrain the Treasurer from paying the money to Storrs College.

PROFESSOR HENRY TALBOT has been appointed associate professor of chemistry in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

THE following changes have been made in the medical faculty at Yale University: Dr. Cheney and Dr. Henry L. Swain have been appointed to professorships; Dr. Oliver T. Osborn and Dr. Louis S. DeForest have been made assistant professors, and Mr. C. J. Bartlet instructor in bacteriology.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, Belfast, Ireland, attains its jubilee this year. It has been, however, resolved to postpone the celebrations till next year, when it is hoped that many alumni from different parts of the world will find it possible to be present.

THE number of Freshmen admitted to Harvard University by examination is 465, as compared with 418 last year. The scientific school shows a gain of 22 students; 104 were admitted this year as compared with 84 last year.

THE Freshman Class at Williams College, the largest in its history, numbers about 124 members. The Freshman Class

at Boston University, also the largest yet assembled, shows an increase of 50 over last year.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

PROFESSOR HALSTED REPLIED TO.

EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Your number of September 6th appeared while I was in Europe, so that I am late in replying to an extraordinary charge made against me on page 309 by Professor Halsted, as follows:

"This letter of Beez incited Dr. McClintock to an examination of Beltrami's article and a paper on it under the title 'On the early history of the non-Euclidean geometry,' where, among other mistakes, he makes one peculiarly entertaining. He says, p. 145, Bulletin, Vol. II., of Saccheri: 'He confessed to a distracting heretical tendency on his part in favor of the hypothesis anguli acuti, a tendency against which, however, he kept up a perpetual struggle (diuturnum proelium). After yielding so far as to work out an accurate theory anticipating Lobatschewsky's doctrine of the parallel-angle, he appears to have conquered the internal enemy abruptly, since, to the surprise of his commentator, Beltrami, he proceeded to announce dogmatically that the specious hypothesis anguli acuti is positively false.' Who would suspect that all that is a pure fairy tale evolved by Dr. McClintock from his mistranslation of a passage immediately announced by the two Latin words he fortunately retained in parenthesis?"

This is all that Professor Halsted now says of my paper which he names and from which he quotes. He does not mention that half of that paper consists of a brief but careful resumé of the claims of Gauss, to which he devotes so large a part of the review to which I am replying, nor does he recollect that at the time when my paper appeared he wrote me (April 17, 1893), "I was delighted with your article on the Early History of the Non-Euclidean Geometry," giving no hint of dissatisfaction, but going on among other things to refer to an earlier paper of mine as 'your epoch-making article on the Non-Euclidean Geometry.' He sent me a second letter on April 27, 1893, again of the friendliest and most appreciative sort, but not referring to the paper in question; showing that the half on Saccheri as well as the half on Gauss met at that time with no disapproval on his part.