

heat of evaporation of a gramme of water at ordinary pressure, by Joly; (3) the latent heat of fusion of a gramme of ice, by Pickering. But none of these are simply related to other units, and they are arbitrary. He suggested a thermodynamic unit—namely, the heat energy of 42 million ergs. This is a natural and an absolute unit, independent of the researches of any observer, and convenient in magnitude. It may be interpreted practically as the amount of heat required to raise a gramme of water 1 deg. C. at 10 deg. C., as measured on a hydrogen thermometer.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE buildings of the University of the City of New York at University Heights will be formally opened on Saturday, October 19th. The two buildings that will be dedicated are the Hall of Languages and the Havemeyer Laboratory. The new gymnasium is also finished and will be open for inspection. Dr. Anson Judd Upson, Chancellor of the University of the State of New York, will make an address and speeches are expected from Governor Morton, Mayor Strong, Dr. Wm. T. Harris, President Hill of Rochester and President Gates of Amherst. Part of the dedicatory exercises will be the breaking of ground for the new library building.

THE Freshman class in the academic department of Yale University numbers 330, one less than last year. The Freshman class in the scientific department numbers 149, a decrease of 101 as compared with last year. This decrease is attributed to changes in requirements of admission. There are this year 149 graduate students, as compared with 138 in 1894 and 143 in 1893. The number of professors and instructors is this year 227, an increase of 20. The professorships of natural philosophy and astronomy and of botany have not been filled.

By the will of Col. W. L. Chase \$5,000 is bequeathed to the president and fellows of Harvard College to establish a scholarship in the medical school, to be known as the Charles B. Porter scholarship.

DR. FREDERICK F. DUNLAP, a graduate of the University of Michigan, has been called to an assistant professorship of organic chemistry in Yale University.

At the Ohio Wesleyan University, Professor Albert Mann, Ph. D., who has recently returned from Munich, has entered upon his new field of labor in the biological department. The enrollment of students in this department is twice as great as during any preceding year in the history of the College. Professor Trumbull G. Duvall, Ph. D., has just resigned the chair of philosophy at DePauw University, in order to take charge of the department of philosophy. Mr. Duvall is establishing a fine departmental library in connection with his philosophical instruction at the University. Lieut. Waldo E. Ayer, of the 12th U. S. Infantry, has been detailed by Secretary Lamont as professor of military science and tactics. Prof. Ayer will report at the University for duty immediately.

MR. DANIEL T. MACDOUGAL has lately been appointed assistant professor of botany in the University of Minnesota. He will have charge of the graduate and undergraduate courses in plant physiology. Miss Josephine E. Tilden has been awarded the Albert Howard Fellowship on the basis of her work on American fresh-water algae.

A NEW \$40,000 laboratory building is about completed for the departments of bacteriology, histology and pharmacy in the medical college of the University of Minnesota.

THE recently published 'Directory of the Officers and Students of Brown University' shows a total enrollment of 844 students, an increase of 104 over that of last year.

THE number of students in the school of biology of the University of Pennsylvania has greatly increased. More than 300 students are taking the biological courses, about one-third of these being women.

THE Spring Garden Institute of Philadelphia has received a gift of \$100,000 from the heirs of Samuel Jeanes, who supported the Institute with great generosity during his lifetime.

M. H. WHITE, of Cincinnati, and his brother, F. T. White, of New York, have given \$25,000 to Earlham College at Richmond, Ind., in memory of their father, the late John T. White. The College is supported by the Society of Friends.

DR. A. H. THORNDIKE has been appointed instructor in mathematics in Boston University.

DR. G. P. GRIMSLEY, of Topeka, Kansas, has accepted the professorship of geology and natural history in Washburn College.

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE will hold a celebration on October 24th in honor of Professor Francis A. March, the distinguished philologist, who this fall completes his seventieth year and forty years of service in the College. The exercises will begin at 11 a. m., in the auditorium of Pardee Hall, ex-President W. C. Cattell presiding, and will consist of an address by Professor W. B. Owen on Dr. March and his work for Lafayette, and several addresses by Dr. March's fellow laborers in the field of English language and philology; Dr. Wm. T. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education; Professor T. R. Lounsbury, of Yale; Professor J. W. Bright, of Johns Hopkins, and Professor Thos. R. Price, of Columbia.

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY celebrated Founder's Day on Thursday, October 10th. An address was delivered in the Packer Memorial church by the President, Dr. Thomas M. Drown.

THE Council of University College, Dundee, has appointed to the new Harris chair of physics Dr. J. P. Kuenen, Ph. D., of the University of Leyden, Holland.

MR. GEORGE SAINTSBURY has been appointed professor of rhetoric and English literature in the University of Edinburgh.

DR. W. BIEDERMANN, professor of physiology at Jena, has received a call to the University at Graz. Dr. Adolf Heydweiller, of Strassburg, has been made assistant professor of physics in the University of Breslau.

DR. OTTO JAEKEL has been promoted to be a professor of paleontology at Berlin.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PROFESSOR BROOKS ON CONSCIOUSNESS AND VOLITION.

IN SCIENCE of October 4th Professor Brooks has a letter on two communications in previous numbers by Professor Gage, of Cornell University, and myself, in which he expresses objections to them. It is necessary that I state the names of the authors of these articles, as Professor Brooks unaccountably does not do so.

Professor Brooks' objection is to a supposed assumption of knowledge on the part of these persons which he is sure that they do not possess, and he is willing to characterize their assumption by no worse a term than 'poetry.' In any case, he says, it is not science. His objections extend not only to the papers criticised, but to the societies which are supposed to have endorsed such views by electing one of their authors 'many times president;' they will logically extend also to the societies who have elected the other one president, though Professor Brooks does not refer to them.

Professor Brooks' specific objection is to the assumption that "consciousness and volition can cause structure or anything else." He also varies the proposition thus: "If we admit, as I think we must, that for all we know an oak tree may have volition and may do as it likes, what evidence is there that it ever likes to do anything which it would not do in any case by