

solved not to insure any building in which acetylene gas is regularly used.

A TELEGRAM to the daily papers states that a meteorite, said to be twenty feet in diameter, has fallen on Pine Mountain, which is located on the Kentucky River, about twenty-five miles from Hindman, Ky. A house is said to have been destroyed and the family buried beneath the debris. While no great reliance can be placed on such reports, the one in question perhaps deserves investigation.

WE have received from the publishers J. U. Kern's Verlag, Breslau, and also from the importers, Lemcke and Buechner, New York, the first number of a new quarterly journal, *Centralblatt für Anthropologie, Ethnologie und Urgeschichte*, edited by Dr. G. Buschan, with the co-operation of the leading students of anthropology, including Dr. D. G. Brinton, Dr. Franz Boas and Dr. W. Hoffman. The present number contains, in addition to a preface by the editor and a short article by Prof. Sergi, reviews of 112 books and articles.

THE Cambridge University Press has in preparation, as the second volume of the Cambridge Geographical Series, 'The Geographical Distribution of Mammals,' by R. Lydekker.

THE Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor has arranged a series of lectures for the promotion of the agricultural, horticultural and dairy interests of Westchester county. At Pleasantville, last week, Mr. George T. Powell spoke on apple culture; Mr. M. V. Slingerland, assistant entomologist at Cornell University, on insects; Prof. J. W. Sanborn, Lower Gilmanton, N. H., on 'Intensive Methods of Eastern Farming,' and Mrs. Ann B. Comstock, of Ithaca, on flowers and their insect friends. In the neighborhood of places such as Ithaca, where agricultural instruction is given, improvement in methods of farming and gardening has taken place, and it is the object of the Association to extend such instruction more widely.

It is reported that platinum in quantities sufficient to repay mining has been discovered at Swift Water, a small camp at the foot of Buffalo Peak, Colo.

M. PAUL DE HUMY, a French naval officer,

has invented a process for solidifying petroleum. It is said that common oil has been converted into a solid block as hard as anthracite coal, and that it will burn slowly, giving off intense heat. A ton of this fuel is said to represent thirty times its weight of coal.

THE Paris Society of Geography, which already possesses a large collection of photographs, requests travelers, missionaries and others to send geographical and ethnographical photographs, especially such as are taken in remote and partly unexplored regions.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE annual report of President Eliot, of Harvard University, states that the following gifts and bequests have been made to Harvard University during the past four years:

1891-92.....	\$516,532.20
1892-93.....	551,136.10
1893-94.....	182,890.32
1894-95.....	171,060.92

MISS MARY E. GARRETT, of Baltimore, has endowed a second travelling fellowship of the value of \$500 at Bryn Mawr College. The holder, who must have pursued graduate studies for one year at Bryn Mawr College, is enabled to study for one year at some foreign university.

THERE are this year 160 applicants for the twenty-four fellowships annually awarded by Columbia University—75 in the School of Political Science, 42 in the School of Philosophy, and 43 in the School of Pure Science. The candidates in the natural and exact sciences are distributed as follows: Mathematics, 5; mechanics, 1; astronomy, 2; physics, 7; electricity, 2; chemistry, 6; geology, 5; botany, 5; zoölogy, 9; physiology, 1; psychology, 4.

THE convocation of the University of the State of New York will be held on the last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of June. On Wednesday afternoon the subject for discussion will be 'Aim and Methods in Science Study in Schools below the College,' in which Prof. C. B. Scott, Oswego Normal School; Prof. S. H. Gage, Cornell University, and Prof. C. W. Dodge, University of Rochester, will take part.