

quate and inconvenient, but the space available in the museum has become much too restricted, while both offices and museum, with all their valuable accumulations, are subject to danger of loss by fire. The advantage to Canada of having an adequate display of the mineral wealth of the country can scarcely be exaggerated, and that the museum, even in its present state, possesses much interest to the general public, is evidenced by the fact that more than 26,000 visitors have been registered during the year.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

YALE UNIVERSITY receives \$200,000 through the marriage of Mrs. T. C. Sloane. Mr. Sloane had left part of his estate as a trust fund, the above amount to go to Yale University in case of Mrs. Sloane's second marriage.

THE will of the late Ephraim Howe leaves \$40,000 to Tufts college for a new building to be known as the Howe memorial.

THE New York *Evening Post* states that the library of Cornell University has secured, by purchase, through the Sage endowment fund, the extensive collection of works on South America gathered, mainly during an eight years' residence in Brazil, by Herbert H. Smith, of the Brazilian Geological Commission.

IT is understood that Edinburgh University will receive £20,000 from the estate of the Earl of Moray as an endowment fund for the promotion of original research in the University.

THE Senate of the Glasgow University has conferred the degree of D. D. on Prof. Thielton-Dyer and on Prof. Andrew Gray.

THE St. Petersburg Medical Academy has received from the Russian government \$2,500 for experiments with the X-rays.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

CERTITUDES AND ILLUSIONS.

EDITOR OF SCIENCE: I am very much afraid that physicists will find themselves utterly unable to follow, or, at least, to understand, Major Powell in his philosophical dissertations on the fundamental concepts of mechanics, and that

they will be compelled to conclude that his philosophy is *not* 'Natural' Philosophy, in the generally accepted sense.

Believing this to be inevitable, it is hardly worth while to continue at any length a discussion or critical examination of the very interesting propositions which he has laid down. It may be of use, however, to invite his attention to the fact that in the answers to my questions relating to 'Rest and Motion,' which he gave in this JOURNAL for April 17th, he continues to ignore entirely the only serious issue raised by them. It can hardly be supposed that Major Powell is undertaking to establish a concept of motion independent of relativity, yet he seems to overlook the necessity of giving it consideration. When, in answer to my question, he defines motion as 'change of position' it only leaves the question where it was before, if not in even greater obscurity. 'Position' implies a relation; then motion implies a relation and cannot be predicated of any one of Major Powell's several orders of units.

His statement that "the speed of a particle is constant in reference to itself at different times" is meaningless, if the commonly accepted idea of motion is correct. If it is not correct, and that of Major Powell is, then—the bottom has dropped out.

As to his suggested correction of a typographical error in his previous statement relating to the velocity of light, if *molar* be substituted for *molecular* in that statement, it remains quite as astounding as before. I mention this only that he may note that apparently he has not detected the real absurdity involved. M.

APRIL 19, 1896.

IS THERE MORE THAN ONE KIND OF KNOWLEDGE?

"My praise shall be dedicated to the mind itself. The mind is the man, and the knowledge of the mind. A man is but what he knoweth. The mind itself is but an accident to knowledge, for knowledge is a double of that which is. The truth of being and the truth of knowing is all one."—*Praise of knowledge.*

I am pleased to find in the current number of SCIENCE (April 3, 1896), that after seven months