

ACCORDING to *The British Medical Journal*, on the suggestion of Dr. Nicholson, professor of natural history at the University, the Town Council of Aberdeen agreed some time ago to utilize part of the buildings of the old bathing station as a marine aquarium. The tanks have been made, and the further necessary fittings are in hand. In view of the great importance of the fishing trade at Aberdeen further developments have been contemplated with regard to combining a department for fish hatching and culture on a scientific basis with the aquarium. It is to be expected that the investigations carried on in such an institution should prove of great interest and importance to the students of zoology at the University.

*Garden and Forest* states that the crown forests of Sweden comprise more than one-quarter of the entire wooded area of the country and are managed with scrupulous care. The increase alone is cut, so that a productive forest is to stand forever on all crown lands that are unsuitable for cultivation. More than this, the government has entered upon an extensive system of planting trees on desolate and uncultivated areas, and these object-lessons have induced owners of private forests, especially the larger proprietors, to manage their timber lands so that they will become permanent sources of income. These facts were communicated to our Department of State by Hon. H. W. Thomas, United States Minister to Sweden, and they are of particular interest, not only to Sweden, but also to the United States and to Canada, whose lumber meets the Swedish product as its greatest competitor in the markets of the world. Since the forests in Sweden grow slowly, it has generally been supposed that the immense quantities exported would gradually exhaust this most important source of the nation's wealth, but from the facts stated it appears probable that the forty-seven million acres of forests in the country will continue to be a source of income for all future time. The products of the forest now comprise nearly one-half of the total exports of the country in value.

THE *British Medical Journal* states that the German Medical Press Association held its annual meeting recently at Frankfort-on-Main,

under the presidency of Dr. Adler, of Vienna. The following medical journalists were elected members of the committee for the ensuing year: Dr. Adler, of the *Wiener medizinische Wochenschrift*; Prof. Ewald, of the *Berliner klinische Wochenschrift*; Dr. Honigmann, of the *Zeitschrift für praktische Aerzte*, and Docent Dr. Mendelsohn, of the *Zeitschrift für Krankenpflege*. The number of members of the Association is now 39, representing 37 journals. Prof. Virchow was elected an honorary member of the Association, and in acknowledging the honor conferred on him recalled the fact that he had been a member of the German Association of Scientists for 50 years, and during all that time he had been editor of its *Archives*.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE will of the late Willard B. Perkins leaves, among other public bequests, \$24,000 to Colorado College, and \$6,000 each to Columbia University and the Massachusetts' Institute of Technology, for travelling scholarships in architecture.

THE University of Helsingfors has received by the will of the late Dr. H. F. Antells 800,000 M., the interest of which is to be used for travelling scholarships and scientific expeditions.

DR. WILLIS GREEN CRAIG has been elected President of Center College, at Danville, Ky.

DR. PEITHNER V. LICHTENFELS, of the Polytechnic Institute at Graz, has been promoted to a full professorship of mathematics. Dr. Edler, of Göttingen, has been called to an associate professorship of agriculture at the University of Jena; Dr. E. Pringsheim, docent in physics, and Dr. Karl Friedheim, docent in chemistry, have been appointed to professorships in the University at Berlin.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

##### AGE OF THE POTOMAC FORMATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In the last number of SCIENCE, Prof. Marsh tells us that the vertebrate fossils of the Potomac formation demonstrate its Jurassic age. This is a matter of much interest, because the evidence from fossil plants has been thought to place the for-