

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1896.

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MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Prof. J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

GEORGE BROWN GOODE.

GEORGE BROWN GOODE was born in New Albany, Indiana, on the thirteenth of February, 1851, and died at Washington, D. C., on the sixth of September, 1896. His ill-

ness was brief; on Thursday pneumonia developed, and he died on Sunday evening. His wife, three sons and a daughter are left.

Goode was interested in natural history as a boy, and during his college course at Wesleyan University found opportunity to occupy himself both with zoology and with museum methods. After graduating from the University, in 1870, he devoted himself to these subjects, making a collecting trip to the West Indies in 1872 and 1873. In the latter year, at the wish of his friend, Prof. Baird, he became connected with the Smithsonian Institution, to which his genius, as a man of science and an administrator, was devoted for twenty-three years.

We hope to give later an adequate account of Goode's contributions to ichthyology and to museum administration. His extended series of volumes on 'The Game Fishes of the United States,' 'The Fisheries and Fishing Industries of the United States,' 'American Fishes' and 'Oceanic Ichthyology' are standard works, showing great scientific knowledge and originality and power of expression and arrangement. But few men could have accomplished so much even in a long life devoted exclusively to

scientific research. His published works on 'Plan of Classification for the World's Columbian Exposition,' 'Museums of the Future' and other contributions to museum methods and the history of scientific and educational institutions made him the leading authority in America on these subjects. His executive work in the Smithsonian Institution and the U. S. National Museum, extending to every detail and label, will only be appreciated by those who have been associated with him.

It is fitting that we should refer to his connection with this JOURNAL. For him it was only one of many interests, but the JOURNAL had scarcely another friend so able and wise. He contributed an important paper, his address as President before the Philosophical Society of Washington, to the first issue of the new series, and in the last number that appeared before his death his last paper was printed. He not only published in SCIENCE many articles of great value but he also helped continually in its editorial conduct. This JOURNAL, like the Smithsonian Institution, the National Academy of Sciences and other agencies devoted to the advancement and diffusion of science, has suffered an irreparable loss.

But Goode's greatest work was the man himself. He was honored and loved by all. His untiring and unselfish 'devotion to his work and to the helping of others ended only when he had sacrificed his life to it. A man such as Dana dies, his life work accomplished, and we do not rebel against the order of the world. But when nature, prodigal of life and souls, spends millions of years to bring forth at the end a man

such as Goode, and then cuts him down in his prime, we stand at gaze. Each must take up his appointed task, but more wearily.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

THE second annual meeting of the Botanical Society of America, was held at Buffalo, N. Y., on August 21 and 22, 1896, in rooms in the High School building, kindly provided for its use by the Local Committee of the A. A. A. S. Business sessions were held on Friday afternoon, Saturday morning, and for a few minutes late Saturday afternoon. The reading of papers occupied the greater part of Saturday afternoon, and the address of the retiring president was given on Friday evening. Sessions of the Council preceded the business sessions of the Society for which it arranges the program.

The Society was called to order by President WILLIAM TRELEASE, who resigned the chair to the president-elect, CHARLES E. BESSEY, which he assumed with a brief address.

The Secretary announced that since the last meeting one of the most distinguished members of the Society, MICHAEL SCHUCK BEBB, had passed away. A committee consisting of Messrs. COULTER, BRITTON and MACMILLAN, was appointed to prepare suitable resolutions. These, presented later and adopted, are as follows :

"The Botanical Society of America desires to place upon record an expression of esteem for its deceased member, Michael Schuck Bebb, who died December 5, 1895, at San Bernardino, California.

"His published studies upon the difficult genus *Salix* have brought him to high rank as a professional botanist, and American botany owes to him a debt of gratitude as one of its most distinguished representatives."

The ballots for officers for the coming year, which are mailed to the secretary, when canvassed by the council, showed the