

and several in the text accompany the paper.

In the proceedings of the Berlin Anthropological Society for January last, Dr. Felix von Luschan has a contribution in which he describes three trepanned skulls from Tenerife, and refers to seven other examples from the same locality. The operation seems to have been generally successful. Some others present cicatrices, which appear to have been from wounds intentionally inflicted for ceremonial purposes. He also gives examples of defective tympanic bones in artificially deformed skulls from Peru.

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SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

THE British Association for the Advancement of Science, whose preeminence is borne witness to by the fact that it is always called simply 'The British Association' by British newspapers and the general public, is meeting at Liverpool during the present week. Since its first meeting in 1831, the Association has been an important factor in the progress of science in Great Britain and has set an example which has been followed by the nations showing the greatest scientific activity. It has to a considerable extent fulfilled its objects: "To give a stronger impulse and a more systematic direction to scientific inquiry, to promote the intercourse of those who cultivate science in different parts of the British Empire, with one another and with foreign philosophers, to obtain a more general attention to the objects of science, and a removal of any disadvantages of a public kind which impede its progress."

The Liverpool meeting, presided over by Sir Joseph Lister, also president of the Royal Society and by common consent one of the greatest men of science now living, with men such as Prof. J. J. Thomson to preside over its sections, with a strong local committee, in a city offering many attractions, is sure to promote the objects of the Association and surpass in impor-

tance the similar meetings in other countries. Yet it is probable that the meeting will be less influential than that held in the same place 26 years ago, when, with an attendance of 2,878, Huxley as president gave his remarkable address on 'Biogenesis,' and the presidents of the sections included Clerk-Maxwell, Sir Henry Roscoe, Rollerson, Murchison and Jevons.

The British Association does not escape the criticism usual in such cases; it has been said that it has no further *raison d'être*, and even that it is only being kept alive long enough to make presidents of certain men who want this honor. Yet it is probable that such an association has never been more useful or more needed. The men active twenty-six years ago have since become more famous and are mostly no longer living. But new men have come and new problems. The advance of science has never before been so steady and so widespread. There has never been a time when it was more advantageous for men of science to meet together, and use their collective influence for the common good.

THE PASTEUR MEMORIAL.

WE have on several occasions called attention to the monument in memory of Pasteur, to be erected in Paris. There is a strong committee, consisting of a number of the leading men of science in France and having as honorary members the President of the Republic and his cabinet, together with about one hundred and sixty of the most prominent officials, scientists and other distinguished citizens of France. It has been wisely decided to make the memorial international and a committee for the United States has been organized, consisting of Dr. D. E. Salmon, Chairman, Dr. E. A. de Schweinitz, Secretary, Dr. Geo. M. Sternberg, Dr. J. Rufus Tryon, Dr. Walter Wyman, Prof. S. F. Emmons, Prof. Lester F. Ward, Dr. Wm. B. French, Hon. Gardiner G. Hubbard, Mr. C. L. Marlatt, and Dr. Ch. Wardell Stiles. Dr. G. Brown Goode, active in so many useful works, was treasurer of the committee.

The committee has devoted much attention to the subject and has corresponded with many societies and individuals. It prefers to have

each organization appoint one of its members as an associate member of this committee with authorization to collect and forward the subscriptions. No one is expected to subscribe an amount so large that it will detract in the least from the pleasure of giving. A large number of small subscriptions freely contributed and showing the popular appreciation of this eminent Frenchman is what is most desired.

GENERAL.

THE American Society of Naturalists meets at Boston December 29th and 30th, 1896. The American Physiological Society, The American Morphological Society and The American Psychological Association have signified their intention to hold their meetings at the same time and place. The program of the Naturalists' meeting will be announced at an early date.

THE International Zoological Congress will hold its next meeting in September 1898, in Cambridge, England, which is also the place and time of meeting of the International Physiological Congress. The International Psychological Congress will next meet in Paris in 1900, as will also the International Congress of Electricians.

WE are compelled this week to record a number of deaths among foreign men of science. Prof. Luigi Palmieri, the well-known meteorologist, has died at the age of eighty-nine years. He had been professor in the University of Naples since 1847, and was director of the Meteorological Observatory of Mt. Vesuvius. Dr. Philipp Ludwig Ritter von Seidel, professor of mathematics in the University of Munich, died on August 13th at the age of seventy-five years. M. Carrière, an officer of the Jardin des Plantes, Paris, and the author of important contributions to the subject of variation in plants, died on August 18 at the age of seventy-nine years. The deaths are also announced of Ferdinand von Herder, formerly librarian of the botanic garden of St. Petersburg; of Cajétan de Kraszewski, a Polish astronomer and meteorologist; of Dr. Joh. Jak. Egli, professor of geography in the University of Zurich, and of Dr. Minnerode, professor of mathematics in the University of Greifswald.

ACCORDING to the daily papers, a despatch from Odessa, Russia, states that M. Kildischowsky, an electrician, has discovered an improvement in the telephone, by the use of which distance has no effect upon the hearing. In an experiment between Moscow and Rostoff, a distance of 890 miles, talking, music and singing were heard with perfect distinctness. For the purpose of this experiment an ordinary telegraph wire was used. M. Kildischowsky will go to London to experiment with his improvement on the Atlantic cables between London and New York.

A SPECIAL laboratory for the study of diphtheria under the direction of Prof. Flüge has been opened in connection with the laboratory of hygiene in the University of Breslau.

THE Electrical Standardizing Testing and Training Institution of London, has made arrangements to give instruction in medical electricity, including applications of the Röntgen rays to surgery.

M. BIJOURDAN proposes to determine, under the direction of M. Janssen, the force of gravity on Mt. Blanc. An observer at Chamoni in telegraphic communication with the observatory at Paris, will send the times to the summit of Mt. Blanc by an optical system.

THE Leander McCormick Observatory of the University of Virginia, under the direction of Prof. Ormond Stone, has been engaged in the observation of the relative positions of the satellites of Saturn and valuable results have already been secured, from which it is hoped to obtain greatly improved orbits of those bodies.

THE autumn meeting of the Iron and Steel Institution of Great Britain, was held this year at Bilboa, Spain, beginning on August 31st. There were special reasons for meeting at this place, as for the last 20 years the north of Spain has supplied the blast furnaces of South Wales, Middlesbrough, Scotland, and to a less extent of other districts, with the greater part of their raw materials, apart from a certain quantity of local ores. The exports of iron ores from Bilboa during the current year are estimated at over 6,000,000 tons, but the supply now threatens to become exhausted, and there is much competition among the iron and steel

workers in Great Britain, France and Germany to secure control of what remains.

A DESPATCH to the daily papers from Portland, Ore., states that Mt. Hood has been in eruption. A party of twenty-one persons narrowly escaped being buried under an avalanche of rock and ashes.

A MONUMENT in memory of the mineralogist and poet, Franz von Kobel, was unveiled in Munich on July 19th. Franz von Kobel, who died in 1882, was for more than 50 years professor of mineralogy in the University of Munich and made many contributions to all departments of the science, and was also well known among the people for his poems in the Bavarian dialects.

A COMMITTEE to forward the erection of the Pasteur monument has been formed in Bavaria, consisting of Professors v. Pettenkofer, v. Ziemssen and Buchner.

Electricity notes that it is proposed to erect a monument over the grave of Georg Simon Ohm. Subscriptions will be received by the Königliche Filiationbank, Munich.

THE fiftieth anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution is made the occasion of an extended article on its history and present condition by Dr. Max Voretzsch in *Die Natur* for August 30th.

THE catalogue issued during August by Bernard Quaritch, 15 Piccadilly, London, offers for sale a large number of scientific books, some of them of great value, such as complete sets of the *American Journal of Science* (£110), *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* (£148), *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society* (£24), etc.

THE Macmillan Co. announce the following new volumes in the Rural Science Series edited by Prof. Bailey, of Cornell University: 'The Apple,' by L. H. Bailey; nearly ready. 'Fertility of the Land,' by I. P. Roberts, of Cornell University; ready in October. 'Physiology of Plants,' by J. C. Arthur, of Purdue University. 'Grasses,' by W. H. Brewer, of Yale University. 'Bush Fruits,' by F. W. Card, of the University of Nebraska. 'Plant Diseases,' by B. T. Galloway, E. F. Smith and A. F. Woods, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. 'Seeds and Seed

Growing,' by G. H. Hicks, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. 'Leguminous Plants,' by E. H. Hilgard, of the University of California. 'Feeding of Animals,' by W. H. Jordan, of Maine Experiment Station. 'Irrigation,' by F. H. King, of the University of Wisconsin. 'Milk and its Products,' by H. H. Wing, of Cornell University.

AMONG D. Appleton & Co.'s September publications are 'What is Electricity?' by Prof. John Trowbridge, of Harvard University, a new volume in the International Scientific Series, and 'Alterations in Personality,' by M. Alfred Binet, with an introduction by Prof. J. Mark Baldwin.

THE Royal Society of Sciences, of Saxony, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation on July 1st. The King of Saxony was present and an address was made by the eminent chemist, Prof. Wislicenus.

A COMPANY has been organized at Little Rock, Ark., with a view to using horseless carriages in the place of, or in opposition to, the street cars. A franchise has been requested and a proposition made to the City Council to pay 5 per cent. of the net receipts to the city.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE Columbian University, Washington, has established a veterinary department, the faculty of which will include D. E. Salmon, who will be dean of the faculty, professor of sanitary medicine, control and eradication of contagious diseases and inspection of meats; John Lockwood, professor of theory and practice of medicine and surgery; William P. Carr, professor of general physiology; E. A. de Schweinitz, professor of chemistry; Charles F. Dawson, professor of physiology and pathology; A. M. Farrington, professor of obstetrics and zootechnics; D. E. Buckingham, professor of materia medica and therapeutics; James Carroll, professor of pathology and bacteriology; Cecil French, professor of canine pathology; Albert Hassall, professor of parasitology. W. S. Washburn, professor of histology; Charles F. Hadfield, demonstrator of anatomy; C. Wardell Stiles, lecturer on zoology and Edwin Willits, lecturer on medical jurisprudence.