

from America. Under date of August 14th, for instance, its New York correspondent sent this dispatch :

"Still the heat continues, and the odor of the charnel house reigns over the city. From hundreds of decomposing human bodies, and from the rotting carcasses of horses there exhales a stench that is positively sickening. Added to this horror is an epidemic of rabies. Mad dogs are running about the streets, and already more than a score of children have been bitten. The mortality due to the heat yesterday totals up 85 persons."

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

MRS. EDWARD ROBY, Mr. E. A. Shedd and Mr. C. B. Shedd have offered the University of Chicago a large tract of land around Wolf Lake and the channel connecting it with Lake Michigan, for the purpose of a lake biological station, and it is also understood that they will erect the buildings for the purpose if the offer is accepted. The gift is valued at \$500,000.

THE Lewis Institute, the new Chicago school of technology, the foundation stone of which was laid two years ago, has now been dedicated. The late Allan G. Lewis left, in 1877, \$500,000 for the purpose, which has now accumulated so as to make the value of the endowment \$1,600,000.

THE Ohio State University is now erecting three new buildings, viz: Townshend Hall, for the accommodation of agriculture and agricultural chemistry, to cost \$75,000; a Gymnasium and Armory, to cost \$65,000; and one for physiology, zoology and entomology, to cost \$35,000.

AT Amherst College Mr. F. B. Loomis has been appointed assistant in biology and Mr. E. S. Newton assistant in chemistry. At Lafayette College Mr. W. O. Pennell has been appointed instructor in mathematics and drawing; P. C. Nugent, instructor in civil engineering, and R. E. Dennis, instructor in chemistry. At Wellesley College, Miss A. M. Claypole has been appointed instructor in zoology, and Miss J. Evans instructor in botany; Miss M. E. Maltby will be acting professor of physics during the absence abroad of Miss S. F. Whitinghead, of the department.

DR. TSCHERMAK, of the Military Medical

Academy of St. Petersburg, has been appointed full professor of comparative anatomy and embryology in the University of Dorpat. Dr. Lynen, of Charlottenberg, has been appointed professor of mechanical engineering in the Polytechnic Institute at Aachen.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. LOWELL'S BOOK ON 'MARS.'

THE strong title, "The Lick Review of 'Mars'" which Mr. Douglass prefixes to his paper is a misnomer. The book was read, the review was written, the MS. was forwarded to the editor and put in type, wholly in the absence of those of my colleagues who were specially interested in Mars. The responsibility for every statement lies with me and is cheerfully accepted. Nor are any changes now required.

It is a matter of extreme regret to me that Mr. Douglass' comments on my review are so largely personal. I had hoped that one or more of the scientific questions involved might be discussed. My review covered a very limited number of the points which I had desired to bring up; at many points in Mr. Lowell's argument the connection of cause and effect is not clear; and the subject is important. I sincerely hope that Mr. Douglass will write another paper and devote it to the scientific side of Mars.

I again wish to acknowledge my indebtedness for the quotations from one of Schiaparelli's papers translated at Flagstaff by Prof. W. H. Pickering, from which I quoted and to which I gave credit. But many of us had previously read Schiaparelli's earlier papers in *Himmel und Erde*, in Flammarion's *Mars* and in the transactions of the *Reale Accademia dei Lincei*, and had found them full of facts determined and theories faintly suggested to which the modern writer of a book on Mars could conscientiously give credit.

It is true, as Mr. Douglass suggests, that Schiaparelli claimed to have observed seasonal changes on Mars. It is also only too true that Mr. Lowell's book does not mention the eminent Italian's observations of such changes. For my pains in quoting Schiaparelli's own description of the seasonal changes observed by