

A MUSEUM of natural history, geology, archæology and technology is proposed (says *Natural Science*) for Hertfordshire, and a site near St. Albans has been offered by Lord Spencer, upon certain conditions. A sum of at least £5,000 must be raised for building and endowment, and the museum is to be in the hands of the County Council. We are glad to see that a curator is thought of as much importance as a building. A provisional committee has been appointed, including Lord Cowper, Sir John Evans and the Hon. Walter Rothschild.

ACCORDING to *Die Natur*, a Congress for astronomers of all nations, met at Bamberg on September 17th. There were present thirty foreign members, including Father Hagen, of the Georgetown Observatory, who described his Atlas of Variable Stars, which is now in press; papers were also read by Prof. Bauschinger, the new director of the Astronomical Bureau of Calculations at Berlin; Prof. Schur, director of the Göttingen Observatory, and others. The next Congress will meet at Budapest, 1898.

A NOTE in the N. Y. *Evening Post* (quoting from an account in the London *Times*, of a report of Mr. Gosselin, of the British Embassy in Berlin) states that the authorities in German East Africa have put into force a series of regulations intended to check the indiscriminate slaughter of elephants and other big game. These rules, promulgated at Dar-es-Salaam, provide that every hunter must take out an annual license, for which the fee varies from five to 500 rupees. The shooting is prohibited of all young game—calves, foals, young elephants, either tuskless or having tusks under three kilos, and of all female game, if recognizable. Further, in the Moschi district of Kilimanjaro, no one, whether possessing a license or not, is allowed without the special permission of the Governor to shoot antelopes, giraffes, buffaloes, ostriches or cranes. Those who are not natives have to pay 100 rupees for the first elephant killed and 250 for each additional one, and 50 rupees for the first rhinoceros and 150 for each succeeding one. Special game preserves are also to be established. Major von Wissmann suggests that the station authorities should endeavor to domesticate zebras (espe-

cially when crossed with muscat and other asses and horses), ostriches, and hyena dogs crossed with European breeds. It is thought that the best means of preventing the extermination of elephants would be to fix by international agreement among all the powers on the East African coast a close time for the animals, and to forbid the exportation or sale of tusks under a certain size.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

By a decision of the University of the State of New York the degrees B. A. or A. B. and Ph. D. shall not, in the State, be conferred *causa honoris* after January 1, 1897.

THERE are 107 students in Wellesley College taking a course in geology which extends through the entire year. The course is given by Prof. Wm. H. Niles and Miss Elizabeth F. Fisher.

It is proposed to build next year a laboratory of hygiene for the veterinary school at Berlin. Dr. Ostertag has been appointed to the chair of hygiene.

WOMEN have not been able to study medicine in Russia since 1882. Widely signed petitions, asking for the admission of women to the universities, have not been granted, but the Czar has sanctioned a decree creating a medical school for women in St. Petersburg.

SOME months ago the Bellahouston Trustees promised to the Glasgow University a donation of £12,500 towards the foundation of an engineering laboratory, provided that a similar sum was obtained by private subscriptions or otherwise. To fulfil this condition a committee was formed, and the Glasgow correspondent of *The Lancet* learns that nearly the whole of the sum required has been raised, so that the erection of the new laboratory will be commenced in the coming spring.

PROF. SCHENK has been promoted to a full professorship of anatomy in the University at Vienna, and Dr. London, of the University of Breslau, to an associate professorship of mathematics. Dr. Kippenberger, Privatdocent at Jena, has been called to the professorship of chemistry in the medical school at Kairo.