

Fjord, which is about three hundred miles further north than their present abode. The party will consist of a surgeon, possibly another white man and Lieut. Peary; the rest will be Esquimaux. The latter know how to drive dogs; they can go hungry and know how to get food. The conditions under which he will make the coming expedition are of the most satisfactory character. The American Geographical Society has assured \$150,000 to meet all expenses. Lieutenant Peary has five years' leave of absence. He will probably buy a new ship for next year, though he may possibly use the *Hope* again.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

##### INSTITUTIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE report of the Commissioner of Education for the year 1895-6 reports that the total number of universities and colleges for men and for both sexes reporting during the year was 484, of which number 345 admit women to undergraduate courses of study. There are 188 institutions which have not as yet any endowment; 54 have endowment funds less than \$25,000, and only 4 institutions have endowments exceeding \$5,000,000. In a large number of the institutions a comparatively small part of the work is collegiate. There are at present 278 institutions having less than 100 students in undergraduate collegiate courses. The number of instructors reported by the 484 institutions was 12,277, while the number of students of all classes, secondary and higher, was 159,372. Of the latter number 47,014 were in preparatory departments, 68,629 in collegiate departments, 4,673 in graduate departments and 25,438 in professional departments. The property reported was as follows: Volumes in libraries, 6,453,677; value of material equipment, \$134,093,435; endowment funds, \$109,562,433. The benefactions for the year, so far as reported, amounted to \$8,342,728, and the income, excluding benefactions, was \$17,918,174.

The 162 colleges for women had, in 1894-'95, 2,552 instructors and 24,663 students. The material equipment was valued at \$15,568,508,

and the endowment funds amounted to \$5,308,558. The income was \$3,456,983, and the benefactions received during the year amounted to \$611,245.

The number of schools of technology, excluding technological departments of universities and colleges, was 48, having 1,118 instructors and 12,816 students. The total value of all property was reported at \$24,105,242, of which amount \$10,384,293 was reported as endowment funds. The income of these institutions was \$3,526,018, of which amount \$2,402,332 was appropriated by the General and State governments. The gifts and bequests received by the schools of technology amounted to but \$96,133.

The increase in attendance at these universities and colleges is shown in the accompanying figure:

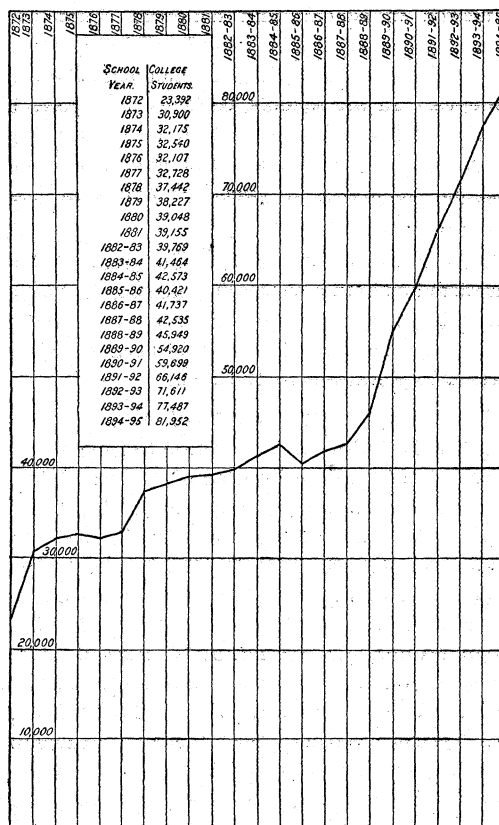


FIG. 1. The increase in attendance at American universities and colleges from 1872 to 1894-5.

## GENERAL.

It is reported that Harvard College and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will each receive about \$500,000 from the estate of the late Henry O. Pierce, under whose will they are, together with three other institutions, the residuary legatees. The amount to be divided has proved much larger than had been anticipated. The value of these bequests is much increased by the fact that they are unaccompanied by restrictions.

THE will of the late Eliza W. S. P. Field gives \$80,000 to the University of Pennsylvania, and makes the University residuary legatee of her estate.

MRS. ESTHER B. STEELE, of Elmira, N. Y., has given \$5,000 towards the cost of a physical laboratory for Syracuse University. The building, which will cost about \$25,000, will be erected shortly.

FURMAN UNIVERSITY, at Greenville, S. C., has been given by Dr. and Mrs. F. A. Miles real estate valued at \$20,000.

THE will of Theodore Lyman, whose death we were recently compelled to record, bequeathes \$10,000 to Harvard University and a collection of valuable books to the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

EX-GOVERNOR FLOWER has given \$5,000 to Cornell University for the purpose of a library for the Veterinary College.

THE will of the late Henry W. Sage, lately President of the Board of Trustees of Cornell University, to which institution he had given about \$1,250,000, disposes of property worth \$12,000,000, but makes no public bequests.

DR. ELISHA GREGORY, JR., formerly demonstrator of anatomy at the University of St. Louis, has returned, after a year's study in Germany, to enter upon his duties as instructor in histology and embryology at the Harvard Medical School.

PROFESSOR PETER T. AUSTEN has left the department chemistry at the Polytechnic Institute, Brooklyn, and is succeeded by Professor Fay.

MR. C. H. BENEDICT has been appointed instructor and Mr. J. M. Talmage assistant in chemistry in Cornell University.

At a meeting of the regents of the University of the State of California the resignation of Professor Colton from the staff of the Lick Observatory was accepted.

THE following appointments have been recently made: Dr. Weiss, professor of mathematics in the Institute of Technology at Prague; Dr. Herzig, associate professor of chemistry in the University of Vienna; Dr. Zelinka, of Graz, professor of zoology in the University at Czernowitz; Dr. Zwaardemaker, professor of physiology in the University of Utrecht; Dr. Julius Hann, director of the Vienna College of Meteorology, professor of meteorology at Graz, in Styria; Professor Joseph Pernter, professor of cosmical physics in Innsbruck University, appointed to the vacancy caused by Dr. Hann's retirement from the Vienna College; Dr. W. Ernest Thomson, professor of anatomy in Anderson College, Glasgow, and M. Brunhes, professor of physics in the faculty of science at Dijon.

THE Cambridge University Calendar shows that the undergraduates in residence at the University now number 2,928, of whom 664 are members of Trinity College and 264 of St. John's.

THE *Athenæum* says that a proposal is being considered to establish at Swansea, as a great manufacturing center, a branch University College in association with either Aberystwith or Cardiff, as the Newcastle College is associated with Durham. The suggestion is that scientific and technical courses might be taken at Swansea in preparation for the Welsh University degree.

## DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

## METEOROLOGY IN SOUTH AMERICA.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: During the writer's present trip down the eastern coast of South America, he has gathered a few facts regarding meteorological work on this continent which may interest the readers of SCIENCE.

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