further statutory powers no accurate account of the quantity and value can be given. Thanks to the courtesy of the owners, who have furnished returns voluntarily, accurate statistics of the output of the shallow ironstone quarries of the Midlands have been secured; and in like manner the output of salt from brineworks has been calculated. The exports and imports of each of the principal minerals, furnished by the Board of Customs, are given after the tables of production, and in several cases information as to distribution, supplied by railway and navigation companies, is added. Lists of smelters of the principal metallic ores follow the export and import tables, and in the case of iron the quantity of ore and coal used in the blast furnaces, and the make of pig iron, have been ascertained from voluntary returns furnished to the Home Office by the owners. The volume includes a table of the mines inspection districts, with the names and addresses of the inspectors of mines, assistant inspectors, secretaries to boards for examinations, and the Clerk of Mineral Statistics. The return also supplies a general summary of the value of minerals obtained from the colonies. The figures for 1895 were: Africa and Mediterranean, £5,506,739; Asia, £5,874,144; Australasia, £13,919,068; Europe, £139,289; North America, £3,842,586; South America, £446,695; and British West India Islands, £101,550; total, £29,830,071, as compared with £28,765,009 in 1894.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

Professor James M. Crafts has been elected President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor Crafts holds the chair of organic chemistry in the Institute and has been the acting president since the death of General Walker.

At Cambridge University Mr. J. B. Peace, M.A., Fellow of Emmanuel College, has been appointed demonstrator in mechanism and applied mechanics for five years, and Mr. H. Higgins, M.A., of King's College, has been reappointed demonstrator of anatomy for five years.

Dr. Mollier, of Göttingen, has been appointed professor of mechanical engineering in the Technological Institute at Dresden

The New York City Board of Superintendents hold an examination for principalships of grammar schools on November 3d, 5th and 8th, which are open to candidates from any part of the United States having an experience of ten years in teaching. The salaries are from $2,500 to $3,500 per annum.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

LEWIS ON THE DIAMOND.

In two papers* recently published Mr. George F. Kunz has reviewed 'Papers and notes on the genesis and matrix of the diamond by the late Henry Carvill Lewis.' In each he attributes to Lewis the theory that South African diamonds have resulted from the intrusion of igneous rocks into and through carbonaceous shales, and the crystallization of the carbon throughout the rock as it cooled, from hydrocarbons distilled from the shale that had been broken through. In his communication to Science, however, Mr. Kunz admits that in these papers Lewis does not distinctly assert that the shales are the origin of the carbon. Mr. Kunz derives his authority for his representations on this point from conversations with Lewis ten years or more ago.

It seems to me that Mr. Kunz does Lewis a serious injustice. Had the latter wished to commit himself in print to this theory it would have been easy for him to express himself in terms as positive as those which Mr. Kunz employs. Far from doing so he appears to support a radically different theory, viz., that the diamonds are phenocrysts and an integral part of the lava. In the following paragraphs I shall quote every phrase in these two papers which bears on the subject, the rest of the text consisting of lithological discussions and the like.

In his first paper, page 6, Lewis properly attributed the hypothesis of the derivation of the carbon from the shales to Mr. E. J. Dunn.† Lewis expresses no assent to this hypothesis, at least in this connection, and merely comments:

* Production of Precious Stones in the United States, U. S. Geol. Survey, Mineral Resources, 1896; and this Journal, Sept. 17, 1897.

† Quar. Jour. Geol. Soc., Vol. 37, 1881, p. 610.