

Mr. H. A. Surface, Fellow in Cornell University : 'Notes on the fish fauna of Cayuga Lake.'

The following papers were read by title :

Professor George A. Dorsey, Chicago : 'Description of two Koutenay skeletons' and 'Two examples of unusual ossification of the first costal cartilages.'

Dr. E. R. Hodge, Washington, D. C. : 'Relation of sex to the size of the articular surfaces of the long bones.'

Dr. J. T. Duncan, Toronto, Canada : 'Anus vulvalis.'

Dr. Woods Hutchinson : 'A skin heart.'

The following officers were elected for the ensuing term : Dr. B. G. Wilder, Ithaca, N. Y., President ; Dr. Geo. A. Piersol, Philadelphia, First Vice-President ; Dr. William Keiller, Galveston, Texas, Second Vice-President ; Dr. D. S. Lamb, Washington, D.C., Secretary and Treasurer.

Dr. F. J. Brockway, of New York City, Delegate, and Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, of Washington, Alternate, to Executive Committee of Congress of American Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. F. J. Shepherd, of Montreal, Canada, member of the Executive Committee of the Association, in place of Dr. Huntington, term expired.

The following eminent anatomists of the Old World were elected honorary members : Dr. Mathias Duval, Paris ; Dr. Carl Gegenbaur, Heidelberg ; Dr. Wilhelm His, Leipzig ; Dr. Albert von Kölliker, Würzburg ; Dr. Alexander Macalister, Cambridge ; Dr. L. Ranvier, Paris.

It is understood that the next meeting will be held in New York City, in the Christmas Holidays, in conjunction with the Society of Naturalists and other affiliated societies.

D. S. LAMB,  
*Secretary.*

#### CURRENT NOTES ON ANTHROPOLOGY.

##### SOUTH AMERICAN ETHNOGRAPHY.

THE praiseworthy industry of linguists in South America is rapidly dispelling the uncertainty which has so long hung over the

affiliations of tribes in that continent. Their recent labors merit a much fuller notice than can here be given, but they must at least be named.

Two articles by Samuel A. Lafone Quevedo deserve especial mention. One is, indeed, a volume of nearly 400 pages, with map, etc., on the tongue of the Abipones (in the Boletín of the National Academy of Cordoba, Vol. XV.) ; the other is on the dialects of the Chanases and their neighbors (in the Boletín of the Geog. Inst., Tom. XVIII.). Both are excellent pieces of work.

Dr. Rodolfo Lenz has continued his thorough investigations of the Araucanian idiom by a series of pieces in the Pehuenche and a number of songs in that and the Moluche dialects (in the Anales of the University of Chile, Tom. XCVII.) ; and an instructive popular lecture on Araucanian literature, printed in the *Revista del Sur*.

A very fine monograph, ethnographic and linguistic, is that on the Matacos by Juan Pelleschi (pp. 248, with two maps, printed in the Boletín of the Geographical Institute, Buenos Aires). It is accurate, original and exhaustive.

##### LIVING TRIBES IN THE STONE AGE.

IN a few remote corners of the earth there are yet tribes in the full Stone Age, living under the conditions of early neolithic man in Europe. Von den Steinen found such at the head waters of the Xingu ; the Jesuits not long ago discovered such in the interior of Alaska ; and a report has lately been published by the La Plata Museum of the Guayaquis, who dwell in Paraguay, near the head waters of the River Acaray, and who are alleged to be true Stone Age people. They are not over 500 or 600 in all, and are a timid, harmless set, shunning the whites from whom they have never received anything but brutal treatment. Their arms are the bow, the lance and the stone toma-

hawk. They wear tall caps of tapir skin and adorn their necks with strings of bones and teeth. They are somewhat undersized, prognathic and brachycephalic.

Strange to say, their language was not studied, the small vocabulary given, which is Guarani, being probably a blunder. Dr. Ehrenreich, from whose article in *Globus* I borrow the notice, inclines to believe them allied to the Botocudos.

D. G. BRINTON.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE act of incorporation of the Washington Academy of Sciences states that its object is the promotion of science with power :

- a. To acquire, hold and convey real estate and other property, and to establish general and special funds.
- b. To hold meetings.
- c. To publish and distribute documents.
- d. To conduct lectures.
- e. To conduct, endow or assist investigation in any department of science.
- f. To acquire and maintain a library.
- g. And, in general, to transact any business pertinent to an academy of sciences.

The nucleus of 75 members elected by the Joint Commission held the first meeting of the Academy on February 16th, when officers were elected as follows: *President*, J. R. EASTMAN; *Secretary*, G. K. GILBERT; *Treasurer*, BERNARD R. GREEN; *Managers*, Alexander Graham Bell, Frank Baker, F. W. Clarke, C. Hart Merriam, H. S. Pritchett, George M. Sternberg, Charles D. Walcott, Lester F. Ward and Carroll D. Wright. The seven Vice-Presidents will be nominated by the seven affiliated societies—Anthropological, Biological, Chemical, National Geographic, Geological, Entomological and Philosophical. The nucleus of 75 will probably be considerably enlarged at the next meeting by the addition, as original members, of persons nominated by a committee appointed for that purpose at the last meeting.

THE New York Academy of Sciences held its annual meeting on February 28th, when the retiring President, Professor J. J. Stevenson, made an address on 'The World's Debt to Pure

Science.' The following officers for the ensuing year were elected: *President*, HENRY F. OSBORN; *1st Vice-President*, NATHANIEL L. BRITTON; *2d Vice-President*, JAMES F. KEMP; *Corresponding Secretary*, RICHARD E. DODGE; *Treasurer*, CHARLES F. COX; *Librarian*, ARTHUR HOLLICK.

THE New York Zoological Society has secured the \$100,000 needed to enable it to take possession of the site provided by the city for a Zoological Garden. The total amount subscribed is \$103,550. There have been thirteen \$5,000 subscriptions by Levi P. Morton, W. K. Vanderbilt, Oswald Ottendorfer, Percy R. Pyne, William E. Dodge, Robert Goellet, J. Pierpont Morgan, Jacob H. Schiff, William D. Sloane, William C. Whitney, C. P. Huntington, Henry A. C. Taylor and George J. Gould. According to the terms of the agreement between the Society and the city, as effected last year with the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, the Society is under obligation to raise \$250,000 for buildings and collections, of which sum \$100,000 must be in the Society's treasury on or before March 24, 1898, and it was agreed that the Society could not take possession of the site until that amount had been provided.

WE regret to learn that Professor W. A. Rogers, the physicist, is dangerously ill.

DR. RUDOLF LEUCKART, professor of zoology at Leipzig, died on February 7th at Leipzig, at the age of seventy-four years.

WE also regret to record the death of Professor Knud Styffe, Director of the School of Technology at Stockholm, and of M. P. B. L. Verlot, the botanist, at Verrières-les-Brusson.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has passed resolutions expressing regret at the death of the publisher Jean-Albert Gauthier-Villars and their appreciation of the value to science of his services in publishing works such as those of Lagrange, Fermat, Fourier, Cauchy and others.

It wished to raise by international subscription a fund for a memorial to the late Edmund Drechsel, the eminent physiological chemist, and for the education of his two sons. Subscriptions may be sent to Professor Kronecke, University of Berlin.

A MEMORIAL will be erected in the chemical laboratory of Bonn to August Kekulé, who for