

being made, and preserved for the most part in formalin. Exhibition space in this museum has been extended by the addition of an upper gallery. Chief among recent acquisitions is a large series of rocks collected in the Northwest District by J. B. Harrison and H. I. Perkins, to illustrate a government report. The chief difficulty in the curatorial work of this museum is presented by atmospheric changes and over much moisture. It is satisfactory to learn that many inquiries are made at the museum, both personally and by correspondence, and that it is becoming more and more a general educating force in the colony.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

AT the annual meeting of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, held in Washington on January 25th, an inquiry was raised as to the propriety and expediency of taking action toward the establishment of a national university, and a committee was appointed to investigate and report at the next meeting. The committee is: John B. Henderson, of Washington; Alexander Graham Bell, of Washington; William L. Wilson, of Virginia (the three members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents); James B. Angell, of Michigan, and Robert R. Hitt, of Illinois.

COLUMBIA University is making plans to establish a summer school during and after the summer of 1900. The courses, as is usual in summer schools, will be planned with special reference to the needs of teachers, and the resources of the Teachers College will be fully utilized.

THE Cornell Medical College proposes to establish a summer school of medicine to be given in New York hospitals and dispensaries.

THE State University of Iowa announces a course of lectures on the Elements of Anthropology, to be delivered early in March by W. J. McGee, Ethnologist in charge, Bureau of American Ethnology.

DR. E. B. MCGILVARY, of the University of California, has been called to the Sage professorship of moral philosophy at Cornell University, vacant by the removal of Professor Seth to the University of Edinburgh.

PROFESSOR C. A. KEEFER, of the Division of Forestry, Department of Agriculture, has been elected professor of agriculture and horticulture in the New Mexico Agricultural College.

MR. J. S. E. TOWNSEND, B.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been elected to the Clerk Maxwell scholarship.

DR. G. MEYER, till now first assistant in the Physical Institute, has been elected to an assistant professorship of physical chemistry in the University of Freiburg. Dr. Zehnder, assistant professor of physics at Freiburg, in Br., has been called to Würzburg as first assistant to Professor Röntgen. Dr. Otto Wiedeburg, docent in physics in the University at Leipzig, has been promoted to an assistant professorship. Dr. Sidler, assistant professor of astronomy at Berne, has been given an honorary professorship. In the Faculty of Science at Nancy the following changes have been made: M. Floquet, professor of pure mathematics, has been made professor of analytical mathematics; M. Molk, professor of applied mathematics, has been made professor of mechanics; M. Haller, professor of chemistry, is professor of organic chemistry, and M. Güntz has been appointed professor of mineralogical chemistry.

Two of the more important chairs at Oxford are vacant—the Sedleian professorship of natural philosophy, so long filled by the late Dr. Bartholomew Price, and the Linacre professorship of comparative anatomy, vacant by the removal of Professor Ray Lankester to the British Museum. *Natural Science* reports that the past students of Professor W. F. R. Weldon, of University College, London, are signing a testimonial to their former teacher in view of his candidature for the latter chair. Among others whose names are mentioned as candidates are Mr. F. E. Beddard, prosector to the Zoological Society of London; Mr. G. C. Bourne, who for many years has been demonstrator and lecturer at Oxford; and Mr. W. Baldwin Spencer, formerly demonstrator to Professor Moseley and now professor of zoology at Melbourne. The last mentioned is now visiting Great Britain. The method of filling chairs at Oxford is not above criticism. On the board appointing a successor to Professor Lankester theology and medicine are well represented, but not natural science.