

age. A law of July 10, 1894, allowed five years for this operation, and it has been punctually accomplished with two days to spare. The great collector at Clichy has been closed, and henceforth half a million cubic meters of sewage daily will, instead of being discharged into the Seine, find an outlet at Achères, Méry and Gennevilliers, to be spread over 3,500 hectares of land.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE Ahearn bill, passed by the recent New York Legislature, allows \$96,000 to be spent on free lectures next year in New York City, being an increase of \$36,000 over last year. The lectures are largely on scientific topics and are doing much for the education of the people.

WE learn from *Natural Science* that the colonies of the west coast of Africa have adopted a scheme whereby picked boys shall be sent for training in horticulture and economic agriculture, first to Jamaica and afterwards to Kew Gardens. This scheme is due to the success that attended the experiment initiated by the then Governor, Sir A. Maloney, of sending in 1890 two native lads from Lagos to be trained as gardeners at the Jamaica and Kew Gardens. After spending two years and a half in Jamaica they were attached to Kew Gardens for some months, and are now in charge of branch botanic stations in Lagos, growing and preparing agricultural products and giving instruction.

DR. W. WACE CARLIER, in the University of Edinburgh, has been appointed professor of physiology in Mason University College, Birmingham.

DR. ADELBERT VON WALDENHOFEN, professor of applied electricity at the Vienna School of Technology, has retired, after more than fifty years of service.

PROFESSOR A. WILMER DUFF, now of Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., has accepted the professorship of physics in the Polytechnic Institute, Worcester. Professor Duff received his B. A. degree in 1884 in New Brunswick, after which he went to Europe for advanced study in the University of Edinburgh. Here he studied with the distinguished physicist,

Professor Tait, and in 1888 received the master's degree, with first-class honors, in mathematics and mathematical physics, receiving also a fellowship in physics. In 1888 and 1892 Professor Duff studied in Berlin, having, in 1889 and 1890 filled temporarily the professorship of physics in Madras, India. Since 1893 he has filled the chair in physics at Purdue University with great success. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and has made a number of important investigations in physics which have been published in the *Philosophical Magazine*, the *Physical Review* and other leading scientific journals. At present he is engaged on some researches on sound, of great scientific and practical importance.

PROFESSOR A. W. FRENCH, formerly of the Thayer School of Civil Engineering, Dartmouth College, has been appointed professor of civil engineering in the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Professor French was educated at Dartmouth College and at the Thayer School of Civil Engineering, from which he received the degree of C.E. in 1892. The Thayer School is well known to be of the first rank in the United States as a graduate school of civil engineering. Its courses are probably more exacting and extensive than those of any other institution. After his graduation Professor French spent two or three years in practice, serving as assistant engineer to Tower Brothers, of Holyoke, and as engineer in charge of the Platte River Paper Mills. Subsequently he was engineer in charge of the Denver and Platte Pumping Station, and this was followed by an appointment as assistant engineer on the Denver and Gulf Railway, especially in bridge designing. In July, 1895, he was called to an associate professorship in the Thayer School, from which he was graduated. He filled this chair most acceptably to the Director, Dr. Robert Fletcher, until 1897, when he resigned for the purpose of again taking up the practice of his profession with the object of obtaining a more varied experience in actual field and construction work. During the past two years he has been the principal engineer of the Niagara Engineering Works, Niagara Falls, New York, which position he leaves to come to Worcester.