

Andres Street. It will contain extensive exhibits of the mineral, agricultural and manufacturing products of Mexico.

THE fourth annual meeting of the New York State Science Teachers' Association will be held at Syracuse, N. Y., on December 28th and 29th. A varied and interesting program is promised. The address by the President Professor LeRoy C. Cooley, of Vassar College, will be given on Thursday evening. The subject for discussion for the first morning is the sequence of the sciences in the secondary school curriculum, opened by Principal T. B. Stowell of the Potsdam Normal School. On Thursday afternoon sub-committees will report on the teaching of zoology and of chemistry in the secondary schools. On Friday morning the subjects to be taken up are 'Earth Science in the Secondary Schools,' by W. H. Snyder, Worcester Academy; 'College Entrance Requirements in Science,' Dean W. H. Crashaw, Colgate University; and 'The Training of Science Teachers for the Secondary Schools,' Professor Edward L. Nichols, Cornell University. On Friday afternoon the equipment of laboratories and the management of laboratory classes will be discussed with separate sections for the biological, physical and earth sciences. Several committees will report at the final session on Friday afternoon.

THE Physics Club of New York, which is composed of teachers of physics in the secondary schools of the city, held its fifth meeting at the physical laboratory of Columbia University on Dec. 16th.

*Natural Science* gives the following particulars in regard to Mr. E. R. Waite's trawling and dredging cruise under the control of Mr. F. Farnell. The cruise, or rather series of four cruises, lasted from February 18th to April 9th. The coast-line covered extended from Jervis Bay to the Manning River, and except for a trip to Lord Howe Island, the greatest distance from land was 25 miles. The depth at which the trawl was lowered ranged between 10 and 90 fathoms. The fishes were the chief objects of study; about 100 species, represented by 365 specimens were collected, and Mr. Waite's preliminary 'Scientific Report on the Fishes' was

published last year as an appendix to Mr. Farnell's 'Report upon Trawling Operations.' Several species are new to the colony, while a few are new to science. The entire scientific collections have been deposited in the Museum, and the results will be published as a Museum Memoir, towards the expense of which £400 was voted. On the last cruise to Lord Howe Island heavy weather was encountered, and the passage occupied seventy hours instead of the usual thirty-six. Mr. Waite and Mr. Ethridge, who also was on this trip, were left on the island for eleven days, since the *Thetis* was blown to sea in the gale. They collected here some additional very interesting remains of *Meiolania platyceps*, the peculiar extinct chelonian, which is also found in Patagonia. Also by the help of Mrs. T. Nicholls they obtained an additional collection of shells. A large number of sponges, anemones, corals, gorgonias, echinoderms, crustaceans and polyzoa were collected during the cruise. The number of species was very great, and included many new or hitherto unrecorded from the coast of New South Wales.

THE *British Medical Journal* states that at a meeting of the delegates 'degli ordini medici' attending from all parts of Italy, held on October 24th, under the presidency of Professor Durante, it was resolved to send a deputation to the Prime Minister (General Pelloux) to ask him to bring in a bill withdrawing the right to practice, even among their countrymen, from all foreign medical men (not holding Italian degrees), whose own country did not grant Italian graduates reciprocal rights of practice. General Pelloux informed a deputation next day that he would introduce such a bill immediately on the opening of the Italian Parliament, which has been summoned to meet on November 14th.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

MRS. J. H. CHAPIN has endowed the chair of mineralogy and geology at St. Lawrence University, Canton, N. Y., with \$30,000. This chair was occupied at the time of his death by the late Dr. J. S. Chapin.

EX-MAYOR CHESTER WARD KINSLEY, of

Cambridge, Mass., has given \$25,000 to Brown University.

THE sum of \$10,000 has been given to McGill University for the establishment of a research scholarship in electrical engineering.

WE are glad to learn that the suit entered to break the will of the late Professor Marsh, of Yale University, has failed and that the will leaving his property to Yale University has been probated.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY will for the first time hold a summer session this year. The courses will open on July 5th and will continue until August 8th. Each course will be given daily including Saturdays and will entitle students to credit toward College and University degrees. The courses offered are as follows: botany 2; education, 5; English, 5; geography, 2; manual training, 2; physical training, 2; mathematics, 3; philosophy, 1; physics, 2; psychology, 2.

It is expected that the statutory committee will complete the formulation of the statutes for the University of London before the close of the present year and that they may be adopted by Parliament before Easter. It is hoped that the reconstituted University of London will be established at the Imperial Institute before the beginning of the summer holidays.

PROFESSOR WINSLOW UPTON, professor of astronomy of Brown University, has been appointed dean of the college.

MR. GRAFTON ELLIOT SMITH, B.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge University, has been appointed demonstrator of anatomy.

THE Degree Committee of the Special Board for Physics and Chemistry, of Cambridge University, are of opinion that the work submitted by Walter Rosenhain, of St. John's College, advanced student, comprising the following papers: (1) Experiments on Steam-jets; (2) On the Crystalline Structure of Metals (Bakerian Lecture, 1899, by Professor Ewing and W. Rosenhain); (3) Experiments in Micro-metal-lurgy (by the same two authors as No. 2)—is of distinction as a record of original research.

PRESIDENT JAMES B. ANGELL, of the Univer-

sity of Michigan, concluded his annual report by expressing "gratitude for the considerate treatment accorded us by the Legislature at its session last winter. Almost unanimously it raised the appropriation for our aid from the tax of one-sixth of a mill to that of one-fourth of a mill. It thus increased our annual income by about \$92,500. This addition to our resources was imperatively needed to keep the University in the position it had so long held among the strong universities of the land. With our great number of students we were in sore need of some new and commodious buildings and also of additions to our faculties. The institution has been maintained with the utmost economy, at an expense not exceeding one-half or two-thirds of that of even smaller universities. The hearty support given us by the Legislature furnishes us the gratifying evidence that the commonwealth which we are striving to serve believes that we are really conferring substantial benefits upon her and upon the nation. That is our sufficient reward and the stimulus to renewed energy in the future."

THE mathematical tripos and the senior wrangler appear to be such an essential part of Cambridge University, that many will be surprised to learn that the special board for mathematics has recommended radical changes. The defects of the present system, as stated by the board, are as follows: (1) The range of subjects in Part I. is excessive, and the result is that many are able to prepare only a portion of the subjects contained in the schedule. (2) The papers are made difficult so as to provide full opportunities for discriminating between the best candidates; they consequently tend to become unsuitable as a real test for many of the others. (3) The better students spend three years in acquiring an analytical facility in solving complicated and artificial questions in a great variety of comparatively elementary subjects—in fact, in mathematical gymnastics. (4) The candidates are not brought into contact with the ideas and methods characteristic of modern advances in mathematics. The Board proposes that the first part of the tripos be arranged so that it shall be taken at the end of the second year and that the order of merit be abolished.