

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE AMERICAN MUSEUM.

THE second portion of the Cope collection containing the Fishes, Amphibia and Reptilia has recently been acquired by the American Museum of Natural History as the munificent gift of President Jesup. It includes 350 described species, represented in the majority of cases by the type specimens. The Amphibian collection is from the Permian formation of Texas, and represents many years' work by Cummings and other collectors. There are also large numbers of primitive reptiles belonging to the Proganosauria and other groups. The Trias is fairly well represented, mainly from Pennsylvania. The Jura is represented by collections both from the Colorado Sandstones and from the Como Beds. The former are the most valuable and in the most complete condition, including, especially, the type of *Camarasaurus* and types of other genera which Professor Cope described but never worked up. The Kansas Cretaceous is represented by a very large collection of Mosasaurs and Pterosaurs in fairly good condition and including many of Cope's types. From the Laramie is an especially fine Hadrosaur, a complete skeleton of *Diclonius* capable of being mounted, also remains of the *Ceratopsia*. From other parts of the Mesozoic and from the Tertiary are a great variety of reptile remains more or less complete, including some fine *Belodontia*, *Crocodylia* and *Chelonina*. This supplements the very large reptilian collection already made by the American Museum which will now be worked up for the first time.

At the same time there has been presented to the Museum, by Messrs. Havemeyer, Iselin, Dodge, James and Osborn, the valuable Pampean collection purchased by Professor Cope at the Paris Exposition of 1878. This was the first large exhibition in Europe from the Argentine Republic; it includes several entire skeletons, especially those of the great sabre-tooth tiger, *Machærodus*, and of *Lestodon*, and parts of the skeleton of *Toxodon*, also the carapace of several of the armored Edentates. This collection was mounted for exhibition in Paris and very carefully packed at the time of its purchase by Professor Cope; it has never been unboxed since.

Dr. O. P. Hay, formerly of the Field Columbian Museum, who for some time past has been working in the National Museum, has accepted a position in the American Museum as Assistant Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology and will be especially engaged in the arrangement of the Cope Mesozoic collection; he will enter upon his duties January 15th.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. G. K. GILBERT, of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been elected president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Professor Edward Orton.

WITH the close of the year, Assistant Charles A. Schott, who for nearly fifty years has been the distinguished and energetic chief of the Computing Division of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, retired from that important position in order to devote his whole time to special scientific work. Under Mr. Schott's careful supervision and training has developed a corps of skilled computers equalled by no other scientific bureau. To his labors, perhaps, more than to any other one man's, is due the high scientific character of the results which the Survey has given to the world. The completion last year of the great arc, begun over a quarter of a century ago, marks an epoch in the history of the Division, and, the beginning of the triangulation on the 98th meridian, would seem to be a fitting occasion for relieving Mr. Schott of the burden which he has borne for so many years. His official career has been coincident with the development of the Survey, and his untiring zeal and fidelity have done much to bring about its present standard. Assistant Schott will now devote himself to the discussion of the eastern oblique arc (Maine to Louisiana) and a similar arc in California. His successor is Assistant John F. Hayford, who for several months past has occupied the position of Inspector of Geodetic work, and has thus had general supervision, under the Superintendent's direction, of the field geodetic operations. His assumption of the duties of chief of the Computing Division in addition to his previous duties gives him the supervision of the geodetic

operations from the inception of the plans and the beginning of the field work to the publication of the results, an arrangement which, doubtless, will be conducive to efficient coöperation of the field and office and to prompt publication of results. Mr. Hayford has had eight years' experience with the Survey both in field service and office work, and has, therefore, received excellent preparation for his present position.

INVITATIONS have now been sent for the memorial meeting in honor of the late Dr. Daniel Garrison Brinton, to be held in the hall of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, on Tuesday evening, January 16th. The American Philosophical Society issues the invitations on the part of

The University of Pennsylvania, The Academy of Natural Sciences, The Numismatic and Antiquarian Society, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, The Geographical Society of Philadelphia, The Oriental Club of Philadelphia, Jefferson Medical College, The American Association for the Advancement of Science, The Smithsonian Institution, The Bureau of American Ethnology, The United States National Museum, The Anthropological Society of Washington, The American Folk-lore Society, The American Antiquarian Society, The New Jersey Historical Society, The New York Historical Society, The American Oriental Society, The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, The Chester County Historical Society, The American Museum of Natural History, The Field Columbian Museum, The Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology, The Peabody Institute of Arts and Sciences, The Loyal Legion.

THE statue of Lavoisier, to be erected in Paris, will probably be unveiled in July of this year. The international subscription amounted to 98,000 francs.

SIR RICHARD THORNE THORNE, K.C.B., F.R.S., principal medical officer to the Local Government Board of England, and distinguished for his labors on behalf of public health, has died at the age of 58 years.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has designated the following officials to represent the United States Government at the International Medical Congress, which meets in Paris, in connection with the Exposition, August 2d, next, and to the congress of hygiene and demography, which assembles at the same place, August 10th:

For the army Surgeon General Sternberg and Surgeon LaGarde; for the navy, Surgeon General Van Reyden; for the marine hospital service, Surgeon General Wyman and Passed Assistant Surgeon Rosenau.

MR. FRANK LENEXY, of the Geological Department of the British Museum, has been appointed assistant curator of the Norwich Museum.

DR. LABOURAND has been appointed director of a laboratory newly established by the Municipal Council of Paris, his chief duties being to make inspections of the city schools with a view to diseases of the skin.

THE position of chemist, New York State Board of Health, will be filled on or about January 27th. The examination will consist entirely of practical questions relating to analysis of food products and questions relating to experience and training of the candidates.

At a meeting of the American Ethnological Society, held December 19th, at the American Museum of Natural History, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Mr. Morris K. Jesup; *First Vice-President*, General Grant Wilson; *Second Vice-President*, Professor Franz Boas; *Recording Secretary*, Livingston Farrand; *Corresponding Secretary*, Marshall H. Saville; *Treasurer*, Mr. Frederick Hyde, Jr.

THE Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science is holding its annual meeting this week at Melbourne, under the presidency of Mr. R. L. J. Ellery.

THE eighth International Geological Congress will be held in Paris from August 16th to 26th. The sessions will be divided into four sections, as follows: (1) General and technical geology; (2) stratigraphy and paleontology; (3) mineralogy and petrography; (4) economic geology and hydrography.

THE New York State Museum has recently acquired from Mr. C. J. Sarle an interesting collection of several hundred specimens representing a new crustacean fauna from dark shales at the base of the Salina beds of western New York. These contain numerous species of the merostoms *Eurypterus* *Pterygotus* and other genera, which have not before been observed.

THE German Imperial Government will contribute an annual subsidy of \$5,000 toward the

Institute of Tropical Hygiene, to be opened at Hamburg on October 1st.

MR. MARSHALL H. SAVILLE left New York on December 22d for Mexico to conduct archaeological investigations for the department of anthropology of the American Museum of Natural History.

PROFESSOR FREDERICK STARR, of the University of Chicago, is on an exploring trip in Mexico to continue his anthropological researches.

REUTER'S AGENCY announces that the expedition of Baron Toll, organized for the exploration of the New Siberia Islands and Sannikoff Land, to which no man has yet penetrated, will set out in June next from a Norwegian port, whence it will proceed to the mouth of the Lena, on the banks of which river, at a point above the town of Yakutsk, it will pass the winter. During the summer of 1901 the expedition will begin its explorations towards the north, picking up *en route* a detachment which will be sent forward from the main body during March, with a sufficient supply of dogs.

THE Smithsonian Institution has issued a catalogue of its publications available for distribution in December, 1899. The catalogue can probably be obtained on application, and should be in the hands of men of science, as many valuable papers, reprints and monographs can be secured at a comparatively small price.

THE publishers, MM. Georges Carré and C. Naud, 3 rue Racine, Paris, propose to issue an *Annuaire des Mathématiciens*, containing the names, addresses, etc., of all who are engaged in studying or teaching mathematics. The publishers ask the coöperation of all mathematicians, who are requested to forward their names and addresses.

Nature reports that the Brussels Academy of Sciences has awarded the prize of six hundred francs, for an important contribution to geometry, to M. Léon Autonne, of the University of Lyons. The prize of six hundred francs for anatomical and systematic investigations of insects of the group Apterygota (Thysanura and Collembola) has been awarded to M. Victor Willem, of the University of Ghent. M. F. Keelhoff, of the same University, has been awarded the

Prix Charles Lemaire (interest on twenty-five thousand francs) for a work entitled 'Note sur le travail des forces élastiques.' The decennial prize of five thousand francs for botanical science has been awarded to Professor Alfred Cogniaux; and a prize of the same value for chemistry and physics has been given to Professor Louis Henry. To fill vacancies caused by death, the Academy has elected as foreign associates in the section of mathematics and physics, Sir G. G. Stokes, Professor Moissan and Professor Jordan. In the section of natural sciences, M. C. Vanlair has been elected a *membre titulaire*, Professors Pelseneer and Gravish have been elected correspondents, and Sir John Murray and M. Maupas have been elected associates.

THE Berlin correspondent of the *London Times* states that the plan and details are now published of the vessel which is being built at the Howaldt Shipbuilding Yard at Kiel for the German Antarctic expedition. The ship in question will be built of wood, the only material strong and elastic enough to resist the pressure of the ice. In form she will be somewhat rounder than the *Fram*, and will not fall away towards the keel in the same manner. It will be remembered that at the Geographical Congress in Berlin, Dr. Nansen himself expressed the opinion that the shape of the *Fram* would not be suitable for the heavy weather of the southern seas. In order to strengthen the ship against the pressure of the ice, the middle deck will be built very nearly on the level of the water-line. Protection against floating ice will be afforded by a triple coating of oak, pitch-pine and South American greenwood, and the bow and stern will be especially protected by steel bands. The length of the ship will be about 46 meters, the breadth between 10 and 11 meters, and the draught about five meters. She will be constructed to carry coal and other stores sufficient for three years, and will contain accommodation for five scientific observers, five officers and a crew of about 20 men. Each of the scientific travelers and each of the officers will have his own cabin. Four rooms will be assigned to the crew. The engine and the boiler will be placed in the stern, between the living rooms. The center of the ship will be occupied by the rooms for scientific work and

the fore-castle will contain space for 50 Arctic dogs. The ship will be rigged as a three-masted schooner. Two steam winches will serve the anchor and will also be used for scientific purposes. The ship will be illuminated throughout with electric light. The Howaldt Ship-building Yard, which is under a contract to have the ship built by the 1st of May, 1901, and fitted out not later than the end of August, 1901, has already begun the construction. A model of the vessel will be shown at the Paris Exhibition.

LECTURES given or about to be given before the Royal Institution, London, are as follows: Mr. C. Vernon Beys, six Christmas lectures (specially adapted for young people) on Fluids in motion and at rest; Professor E. Ray Lankester, twelve lectures on the Structure and classification of fishes; Dr. W. H. R. Rivers, three lectures on the Senses of primitive man; Professor H. H. Turner, three lectures on Modern astronomy; Dr. Charles Waldstein, three lectures on Recent excavations at Argive Heraeum (in Greece), three lectures by Sir Hubert H. Parry; Mr. W. L. Courtney, three lectures on the Idea of tragedy in ancient and modern drama; the Right Hon. Lord Rayleigh, six lectures on Polarized light. The Friday evening meetings will begin on January 19th, when a discourse will be given by the Right Hon. Lord Rayleigh, on Flight; succeeding discourses will probably be given by the Hon. C. A. Parsons, Professor J. Reynolds Green, Mr. H. Warrington Smyth, Professor J. H. Poynting, Major Ronald Ross, Professor Frank Clowes, Sir Benjamin Stone, M.P., Professor J. Arthur Thomson, Sir A. Noble, Professor Dewar and others.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER has given \$100,000 to Columbia University to endow the chair of psychology.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has given \$300,000 to Cooper Union, New York City, and \$200,000 has been contributed by Abram S. Hewitt and Mr. Edward Cooper. This will enable the Union to establish courses in mechanic arts.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY receives \$25,000 by

the will of the late Erastus F. Holden, of Syracuse.

THE Italian Parliament has voted a sum of 1,300,000 lire for the erection of new buildings for the University of Bologna.

PRESIDENT J. M. CRAFTS, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has presented his resignation, to take effect at the close of the present academic year. In his letter of resignation, he says: "My reasons for taking this step at the time are founded upon my desire to return to purely scientific occupations. My term in office has shown me the wide field of educational problems, both within and outside the Institute, which should be studied, and I have found that such studies and the performance of administrative duties, although not in themselves burdensome, leave little freedom for the pursuit of experimental science. A choice must be made between administrative and scientific occupations, and it is the latter which I wish to choose."

EDWIN GRANT DEXTER, A.M. (Brown), Ph.D. (Columbia), now of the State Normal College, Greeley, Colo., has been elected professor of pedagogy in the University of Illinois.

MR. E. M. BLAKE, Ph.D., who was recently elected to an honorary fellowship in mathematics at Cornell University, has entered upon his work there. Mr. Blake received his doctor's degree from Columbia University in 1893, after which he spent two years there as instructor in Barnard College. He spent the year '95-'96 as a student in Leipzig, Berlin and Göttingen, and in '96-'98 was instructor in mathematics in Purdue University. Since leaving Purdue, Dr. Blake has been a student in Paris; his investigations thus far have been chiefly in kinematics.

By a recent Ministerial decree, M. Sergejevich, whose unpopularity with the students of the University of St. Petersburg is said to have been one of the chief causes of the disturbances that have occurred among them, has been relieved of his functions as Rector of the University of St. Petersburg. He has been succeeded by Professor Holmstein, who is credited with liberal tendencies.