

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY conferred at Manchester on June 30th, honorary degrees upon Lord Rayleigh, Sir William Huggins, Sir W. C. Roberts Austen, Sir William Abney, Dr. T. E. Thorpe, Professor J. Dewar, Professor A. R. Forsyth, Mr. R. T. Glazebrook, Professor E. C. Pickering, Professor J. J. Thomson and Mr. Henry Wilde.

THE Hopkins prize of Cambridge University for the period 1894-1897 has been awarded to Mr. J. Larmor, F.R.S., of St. John's College, for his investigations on the 'Physics of the Aether' and other contributions to mathematical physics.

SIR MICHAEL FOSTER arrived in New York by the steamship *Lucania* on July 21st. He will give a course of lectures before the Cooper Medical College, San Francisco, and will make arrangements for American co-operation in the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature.

PROFESSOR J. MARK BALDWIN, of Princeton University, has returned to the United States after a residence of over a year at Oxford, where he has been seeing through the press the 'Dictionary of Psychology and Philosophy' shortly to be published by The Macmillan Company.

DR. EMORY MCCLINTOCK has returned from Paris, where he attended the third international Congress of actuaries as delegate from the U. S. Government.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has elected M. Bazin of Dijon a correspondent for the section of mechanics and M. Zambacca a correspondent for the section of medicine and surgery.

DR. CORFIELD, professor of hygiene and public health at University College, London, has been elected a corresponding member of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium.

DR. NICHOLAS SENN, who served as a volunteer medical officer during the war with Spain, has again offered the United States government his services, to go to China to care for the American soldiers who may be wounded. As volunteer in the Spanish-American war Dr. Senn went to Cuba, where he was chief operating-surgeon in the field with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

CAPTAIN E. L. MUNSON, assistant surgeon in the United States army has been awarded the prize (one hundred dollars in gold or a medal of that value) presented to the Military Science Institution by Dr. Louis L. Seaman, for the best paper on the subject of 'The Ideal Ration for an Army in the Tropics.'

THE Managers of the Royal Institution have awarded the Actonian prize of 100 guineas to Sir William Huggins, K.C.B., F.R.S., and Lady Huggins for their work 'An Atlas of Representative Spectra.'

MR. J. H. MAIDEN, director of the Botanic Gardens at Sydney, is at present in London, and will spend about three months making special investigations in Great Britain and on the continent.

JAMES R. BAILEY, Ph.D., adjunct professor, in charge of organic chemistry in the University of Texas, will spend the coming year at Leipzig. His place will be supplied by Mr. E. Schoch, late of the University of Chicago.

MR. THOMAS LARGE has been appointed assistant in the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History for ichthyological work on the natural history survey.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of Texas (July 12th) provision was made for the appointment of an 'instructor in economic and field geology,' who should supplement the work of instruction in the University by research work in the State. This step is preliminary to the establishment of a Geological Survey under the auspices of the University.

DR. J. M. MENECK is supposed to have perished in the desert of southern Utah. He was separated from his companions while prospecting in that region, and no traces of him have been found. He was known as a geologist and archæologist and had represented the Smithsonian Institution.

THE following deaths of ornithologists are noted in the *Auk*: Edgar Leopold Layard has died at Budleigh Salterton, Devon, England, in his 76th year. He was born at Florence on July 23, 1824, and entered the Civil Service of Ceylon when twenty-two years of

age; in 1855 he accepted the invitation of the late Sir George Grey to a post in the Civil Service at Cape Town. There he founded the South African Museum and became its first curator; Layard's chief work was 'The Birds of South Africa,' published in 1867, of which a new and revised edition, with the collaboration of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, made its appearance between 1875-84. It is rather by his many and varied contributions from 1854 almost to the time of his death that he will be remembered; and a column of closely printed type in the General Subject Index to *The Ibis* testifies to his work in ornithology. Percy S. Selous, an associate member of the American Ornithologists' Union, died at his home in Greenville, Mich., on April 7, 1900. His death was due to the bite of a pet Florida moccasin. Mr. Selous was a great traveler and an enthusiastic naturalist, especially interested in birds and reptiles.

AMONG the British Civil List pensions granted during the year ended on June 20th, *Nature* notices the following: Mr. Benjamin Harrison, in consideration of his researches in the subject of pre-historic flint implements, 26*l.*; Mr. Thomas Whittaker, in consideration of his philosophical writings, 50*l.*; Mr. Charles James Wollaston, in recognition of his services in connection with the introduction of submarine telegraphy, 100*l.*; Mr. Robert Tucker, in consideration of his services in promoting the study of mathematics, 40*l.*; Mrs. Eliza Arlidge, in consideration of the labors of her late husband, Dr. John Thomas Arlidge, in the cause of industrial hygiene, 50*l.*; Miss Emily Victoria Biscoe, in consideration of the services rendered to Antarctic exploration by her late father, Captain John Biscoe, 30*l.*

THE death is announced of Dr. Corrado Tommasi Crudeli, professor of pathological histology at Rome, one of the secretaries of the Accademia dei Lincei and known for his important researches on cholera and malaria.

By the will of the late Timothy B. Blackstone, of Chicago, \$250,000 is given to public institutions, including \$100,000 to the Blackstone Library at Branford, Conn., and \$25,000 to the Chicago Art Institute.

THE Belgian Academy of Medicine offers a prize of 1200 fr. for a research on the influence of change of temperature on nutrition. Essays must be sent before the 20th of January, 1901, to the Secretary of the Academy, Brussels.

THE fiftieth anniversary of the German Ornithological Society will be celebrated at the annual meeting which will be held at Leipzig on October 5th.

THE third annual meeting of the American Section of the International Association for the Testing of Materials will be held in New York, October 25th-27th. At this meeting reports of a number of committees as to proposed standard specifications will be submitted for discussion. Among these are specifications for steel axles, steel forgings, steel castings and wrought iron.

THE annual meeting of the British Museums Association began at Canterbury on July 9th, under the presidency of Dr. Henry Woodward, of the British Museum.

THE Victoria Institute, London, held its annual meeting on July 15th, when an address was given by Professor Hull, F.R.S.

THE Jenner Institute of Preventive Medicine, London, will be taxed according to a decision of the English Courts, because it is not exclusively for purposes of science. It is held that the fact that the Institute has sold certain anti-toxines prevents it being regarded as exclusively for the advancement of science.

THE British Secretary of State for India has received a telegraph from the Governor of Bombay stating that there were 9928 cases of cholera in the famine districts during the week ending July 7th, of which 6474 were fatal, and that in the native States there were 9526 cases, of which 5892 were fatal. The total number of death on the relief works was 5870, which was 3.9 per 1000.

THE hut in which Drs. Sambon and Low are about to make their experiments, to see whether malaria is prevented by excluding mosquitoes, is to be placed on a site about two miles from Ostia, on the edge of a swamp forming part of the royal hunting domain of Castel Fusano, and left undrained to preserve the wild animals. It is one of the most fever stricken centers of the Roman Campana and

infested with innumerable mosquitoes of the malarial variety.

A BLACK bear for the N. Y. Zoological Park recently escaped while being transferred from a truck to the enclosure in the Park. It scratched Dr. Hornaday, director of the Park, and an attendant, and was strangled in the attempt to catch it.

It is said that three of the surveying parties recently sent to Alaska by the United States Geological Survey are now at work in the Nome district and its extension in the Seward Peninsula. They are in charge of Messrs. E. C. Barnard, A. H. Brooks and W. J. Peters. Mr. Barnard will make a topographic map on a scale of four miles to the inch, and Mr. Brooks will make geological investigation covering the area thus mapped. He will determine the extent of the gold-bearing formation, and trace out the conditions of occurrence of the veins from which the placer gold has been derived. He has submitted a report which speaks of the adverse conditions prevailing at Nome. He says that large numbers of persons on the beach were without shelter or food, and verifies the reports of the presence of smallpox on the vessels, and the probability of a smallpox epidemic there. Mr. F. C. Schrader, under date of June 14th, reports the arrival of the Copper River surveying party at Valdes. This party is to make a topographic and geologic survey of an area of 3000 square miles in the Copper River region, where valuable copper deposits are reliably reported to exist.

THE *Windward* has left Sydney, B. C., for Etah, North Greenland, with supplies for the Peary expedition. It is, however, said that the ice floes this year are unusually heavy and extensive, and that the *Windward* will experience great difficulty in going North and will probably be unable to reach Etah.

THE *British Medical Journal* states that on the initiative of Professor W. D. Scherwinsky of Moscow, a permanent committee for the study of tuberculosis as a national scourge has been formed in Russia. Professor Scherwinsky himself is the President; the other members are Messrs. Ph. M. Blumenthal, G. N. Gabritschewsky, F. A. Guetier, L. J. Golubinin, G.

J. Gurin, P. J. Kurshin, A. G. Petrowski, J. W. Popoff, A. D. Solokoff, and A. N. Ustinoff. The committee which has met twice a month since the beginning of April has drawn up for itself the following program of work: (1) Reports on the communications made on tuberculosis to the Pirogoff Congress and other medical societies in Russia; (2) reports of foreign congresses on tuberculosis; (3) reports on tuberculosis as an infectious disease (diagnosis, etiology—heredity, individual predisposition, external influences, mode of diffusion, economic and social factors); (4) statistical data respecting tuberculosis in Russia; (5) legislative measures and ordinances in regard to tuberculosis of human beings and beasts; (6) sanatoria, koumiss establishments, etc.; (7) the means actually in use, and which should be used, for the prevention of tuberculosis in the different provinces of Russia; (8) tuberculosis in animals and its relation to the disease in human beings.

Nature states that the grant of 1000*l.* in aid of the work of the Marine Biological Association; the site of the National Physical Laboratory at Kew; and the grant to the British School at Athens, were brought before the House of Commons upon the vote to complete the sum of 50,724*l.* for scientific investigation. It was urged by Mr. Gibson Bowles that the grant to the Marine Biological Association should be largely increased; and by Lord Balcarres that the vote of 7000*l.* for building and equipping the National Physical Laboratory should not bind the treasury to adhere to the site which has been proposed. Mr. Hanbury said it should be borne in mind that the grant of 1000*l.* to the Marine Biological Association was not the only grant made in connection with the fisheries of the United Kingdom. A grant was given to the Fishery Board of Scotland for the purpose of scientific investigation, and similar assistance was given to the Irish fisheries. Under present conditions there did not seem to be any urgent necessity to increase the grant. The Treasury has very little voice in the matter of a physical laboratory; it has acted on the recommendation of a committee of the Royal Society. It was absolutely necessary to find a site near Kew Observatory, and

after looking at every possible site the committee strongly reported that no other site would answer the purpose so well as that which adjoined Kew Gardens. He agreed that nothing ought to be done which would interfere with the amenities of Kew Gardens, and this point had been considered in the selection of the site. The two buildings, one for machinery and the other for carrying on the more delicate scientific operations, were to be placed in positions which would not mar the views from the gardens or injure their amenities. The voting of the 7000*l.* would in no way prejudice the consideration of the case against the proposed site. Referring more particularly to the British School at Athens, Mr. Balfour stated that the only ground for the alarm expressed was that the original grant was for five years, and that this term was drawing to a close. The question of governmental subvention of scientific investigation was a very important subject, and there was no doubt that Great Britain had, from a traditional policy, lagged greatly behind other nations in respect. It never occurred to them to do what the Germans, the French, or the Americans did in making certain grants for investigations; and who was right he did not undertake to say. His own personal inclination was rather in the direction of governmental aid in cases where they could not expect private aid to come forward; but at the same time he confessed that he often thought how strange it was in a very rich country there were not found some people who, in a difficulty to find other and more profitable investments, did not attempt to earn glory for themselves by carrying on those investigations with the money that was required. He could only say that certainly the grant would not be discontinued without a generous consideration of the facts and interests involved.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

AN additional story will be added to the University Hall, Columbia University, during the present year. The basement of this Hall, containing the gymnasium and power house, erected at a cost of about \$1,000,000, has been in use since the University removed to its new

site. The superstructure is being erected by gifts from the alumni, and enough money is now available to construct an additional story which will contain dining halls, club rooms, an assembly room, seating 1500, and some of the offices of administration. The assembly hall for the religious and social life of students for which a gift was made last spring will be begun in the autumn. During the present summer, alterations are being made in Schermerhorn Hall in order to enlarge the laboratory of psychology. A private staircase is being built from the present laboratory to the floor above where seven additional rooms for research are being provided.

AT the University of Texas, Dr. S. E. Mezes has been promoted from an associate to a full professorship of philosophy and Dr. H. Y. Benedict, instructor in mathematics and astronomy has been advanced to an adjunct professorship. The regents have made provision for an instructorship in botany.

THOMAS NOLEN, professor of architecture in the University of Missouri, has resigned to accept a professorship in the University of Pennsylvania.

It is reported that Dr. A. Lincoln, assistant in chemistry at Cornell University, has been offered the chair of chemistry in the University of Cincinnati.

MR. JOHN H. MCCLELLAN has been reappointed instructor in zoology at the University of Illinois.

DR. PRECHT, of the University of Heidelberg, has been promoted to an associate professorship of physics, and Dr. Fritz Czeschka von Mährenthal, curator in the Zoological Institute of the University of Berlin, to a professorship of zoology.

PROFESSOR ORESTE MATTIROLI has been appointed professor of botany in the University of Turin, and Dr. Fridrano Carava associate professor in this science in the University of Cagliari.

DR. SCHMIDT, honorary professor of anthropology and ethnology in the University at Leipzig, has retired.