

work dates from 1832 is calculated to mislead others, it seems desirable to call attention to the facts in the case.

The earliest American edition of the work, entitled 'The American Edition of the New Edinburgh Encyclopædia,' was published at Philadelphia by Edw. Parker and Jos. Delaplaine, Edw. Parker, and Jos. Parker (the firm changing twice apparently), in 18 volumes, each in two parts, making 36 volumes in all. Each has the full title printed on the outside cover, together with the date of publication, which ranges from 1812 to 1831.

This edition was probably printed directly from the Edinburgh one, as fast as the parts came out. Of this, however, I am not sure, as I have not the dates of the latter at hand.

After this publication was finished, extra copies, which were apparently struck off from the same type, as they are absolutely identical, were bound up in 18 volumes with a new title page: 'The Edinburgh Encyclopædia conducted by David Brewster, first American edition,' all the volumes bearing date of 1832.

The statement 'first American edition' probably misled Dr. Allen, though except for the title page and introduction, this edition seems to be identical with the real first American edition of 1812-1831. Both 'editions' are in the library of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

WITMER STONE.

THE SPENCER-TOLLES FUND OF THE AMERICAN MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: At the annual meeting of the American Microscopical Society, held in New York City during the last week in June, the especial attention of the Society was directed toward the Spencer-Tolles fund. As many are unfamiliar with the movement, permit us to state its history briefly as follows:

After the death of Charles A. Spencer in 1881 and of Robert B. Tolles a few years later, it was deemed fitting that a sum should be raised to provide a proper memorial to the father of American microscopy and his distinguished pupil, as a tribute due their services to the scientific world. The first notice of the movement was sufficient to bring, unsolicited, from the Royal Microscopical Society of London a con-

tribution for this purpose. Additional sums subscribed by the members and others, together with the natural increase under the careful management of the Custodian, have brought the sum to a total at date of \$756. The recent death of Herbert R. Spencer, the last of the three famous American workers, to whose efforts toward the perfecting of microscopic objectives the entire scientific world is so deeply indebted, serves as the immediate impulse of this movement toward the enlargement of the fund to a point at which its income may be sufficient to encourage in some way the advancement of science. It is accordingly desired that this tribute to the Spencers, father and son, and to their co-worker, Mr. Tolles, should be increased at once to the sum of at least \$1,200, in order that the income therefrom may be offered each year under proper conditions as a reward for or assistance toward some scientific work or investigation of suitable character.

To this end the undersigned were appointed by the Society to secure cooperation in the effort to increase the fund, and to solicit contributions toward that end. We believe that the object will appeal to every one who is called upon to use the microscope in any capacity whatever, and contributions will be welcomed from all. Remittance should be made to Mr. Magnus Pflaum, Custodian of the Spencer-Tolles Fund, Bakewell Law Building, Pittsburg, Pa., who will at once return a proper receipt for the same.

For the American Microscopical Society.

Committee:

HENRY B. WARD, The University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

ADOLPH FEIEL, 520 East Main St., Columbus, Ohio.

HENRY R. HOWLAND, 217 Sumner St., Buffalo, N. Y.

Custodian:

MAGNUS PF LAUM, Bakewell Law Building, Pittsburg, Pa.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB, OCTOBER 9, 1900.

THE scientific program consisted of reports of summer work.