

the Navy Department, and 19 said no; but when it came to their suggestions as to what department it should be connected with, if disconnected from the Navy Department, the disagreement was enough—not to speak too lightly—to make any man's head ache.

There was almost as wide a divergence of opinion as opinions expressed. Some suggested the Treasury Department, some suggested the Geological, some the Interior Department, and some the Smithsonian Institution. Many thought—and I am sure the gentleman from Illinois would not be in favor of it—that it was immediately necessary to establish a new department of the Government, that of a department of science, and for the appointment of a secretary of that department, in order that this Bureau and this Observatory and one or two others might be connected with it and embodied in one institution. Others suggested that it was necessary for the Government in order properly to administer the Observatory to establish a national university.

This board, composed, as I say, of a member of the Senate and a member of the House and these three representative astronomers, after considering the whole matter from one end to the other, reached the conclusion that in the absence of the department of science or of the national university the management of the Observatory could be and would be as properly carried out under the control of the Navy Department as any other and at a probably less expense than any other.

Now, as I stated a moment ago, the Observatory work is done, as far as the executive head is concerned, by an officer detailed from the United States Navy, but who does not have control of the astronomical work. To a certain extent he is the head of the Observatory, but the responsibility for the astronomical work is placed upon the astronomical director.

The question whether or not it would be better for the head of the institution to be an astronomer, either from civil life or from the corps of mathematics, is one which can not in this connection be determined. But, so far as the scientific work is concerned, I am satisfied that it is now being well done; and I want to call attention to the fact that in a two-page article in *SCIENCE* of recent date, criticising Captain Davis's report to the Secretary of the Navy, it is admitted that the work is well done so far as the scientific part of it is concerned.

Therefore, I am sure my friend from Nevada [Mr. Newlands] will not hereafter desire in any way to do injustice to an institution of this country which may stand at the head, and should stand at the head, of all similar scientific institutions throughout the world.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

AN American Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists was formed at a meeting held in New York on January 26th. The following officers were elected: *President*, Dr. W. T. Councilman; *Secretary*, Dr. H. C. Ernst; *Treasurer*, Dr. Eugene Hodenpyl. The first regular meeting of the Society will be held in Boston on April 5th.

ON the occasion of the retirement of Sir Archibald Geikie, F.R.S., of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and Ireland, he will be entertained at a dinner and presented with an address.

AMONG the honors conferred on the occasion of the bi-centenary of the Prussian monarchy is the patent of hereditary nobility to Dr. Emil Behring, professor of hygiene and the history of medicine at Marburg.

WE learn from *Nature* that the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society has awarded the Wilde medal for 1901 to Dr. Elias Metchnikoff, of the Institut Pasteur, Paris, for his researches in comparative embryology, comparative anatomy, and the study of inflammation and phagocytosis; and the Wilde premium to Mr. Thomas Thorp, for his paper on grating films and their application to color photography, and other communications made to the Society. The Dalton Medal for 1901 has not been awarded.

THE Maximilian order for science and art of Bavaria has been conferred on Dr. Hugo Seeliger, professor of astronomy in the University at Munich.

PROFESSOR R. BLANCHARD, who for twenty-three years has filled the position of secretary to the Zoological Society of France, has presented his resignation to take effect on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Society. On this occasion a commemorative medal will be conferred on Professor Blanchard in recognition of his great services to the Society.

MR. W. H. DINES has been appointed president of the Royal Meteorological Society, London.

PROFESSOR GEORGE E. HALE, of the Yerkes Observatory, gave an address before the Boston

Society of Arts on January 31st, on 'Astronomical Photography with the Great Visual Telescope of the Yerkes Observatory.'

DR. C. W. ANDREWS, of the Geological Department of the British Museum, has, on account of ill health, been granted leave of absence for three months, which he proposes to employ in studying the geology of Egypt and the Soudan. It is earnestly hoped that he may be able to return to his excellent work on fossil reptiles and birds.

PROFESSOR W. B. SCOTT, of Princeton University will deliver a course of sixteen lectures before the Wagner Institute in Philadelphia, the first one to be given early in February.

THE officers of the Entomological Society of London have been elected as follows: *President*, the Rev. Canon Fowler; *Treasurer*, Mr. Robert McLachlan, F.R.S.; *Secretaries*, Mr. Herbert Goss and Mr. H. Rowland Brown; *Librarian*, Mr. George C. Champion; and as other *Members of Council*, Professor T. Hudson Beare, F.R.S., and Messrs. R. Adkin, Charles G. Barrett, William L. Distant, H. St. J. Donisthorpe, Charles J. Gahan, Robert W. Lloyd, Edward Saunders, G. H. Verrall and Colbran J. Wainwright.

THE Geological Society of France has elected the following officers for the year 1901: *President*, M. Carez; *Vice-Presidents*, MM. Haug, van den Broeck, Dereims, Nicklès; *Secretaries*, MM. Gentil, and Pervinquièrre; *Vice-Secretaries*, MM. Giraud, Mémén, *Treasurer*, M. Léon Janet; *Librarian*, M. Ramond.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. Frederic W. H. Myers, which occurred on January 17th at Rome, where he had gone, we understand, at the invitation of Professor William James. Mr. Myers was an accomplished poet and man of letters, but is best known to the general public for his enthusiastic devotion to the cause of psychical research. Mr. Myers was born in 1843, being a son of the Vicar of Keswick, and was elected Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge in 1865. Since the establishment of the Society for Psychical Research in 1882, he devoted himself largely to its work, being its honorary secretary. He was one of the authors of 'Phantasms of the Living,' and has left

ready or nearly ready for publication a work on 'Human Faculty.'

DR. SEDGWICK SAUNDERS, the medical officer of health and public analysis for the city of London, and the author of numerous contributions to hygiene and public health, died on January 18th, at the age of seventy-six years.

CONSUL GENERAL McNALLY has reported to the State Department the death of Miles Rock, in Guatemala. Mr. Rock was born at Ephrata, Lancaster County, Pa., October 10, 1840. He was graduated from Lehigh University, in 1868 as civil engineer. From 1868 to 1869 he taught mathematics and mineralogy at Lehigh University. In 1870 went to the observatory at Cordova, Argentine Republic as astronomical assistant to Dr. B. A. Gould. remained in Cordova for three years, mapping the stars of the Southern heavens. From 1874 to 1877 he was employed by the United States hydrographic office, determining latitude and longitude in the West Indies and Central America. In 1878 he was an assistant on the Wheeler survey west of the 100th meridian, determining latitude and longitude, and from 1879 to 1883 he was assistant astronomer at the United States Naval Observatory at Washington, and observed the transit of Venus at Santiago in 1882.

THE five series of Alaskan birds secured at Point Barrow by Mr. E. A. McIlhenny has been divided into several representative collections. Most of these have now been disposed of, the best ones going to the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, to the Hon. Walter Rothschild, Tryng, England, and to the Carnegie Museum at Pittsburg, Pa.

THE Board of Estimate and Apportionment of New York City has approved the plans and specifications of the New York Public Library building, and appropriated \$2,850,000 for its erection. This is in addition to the \$540,000 already appropriated for the removal of the old reservoir and the building of vaults. The total cost of the library will consequently be \$3,390,000. It has been decided to build the library of white marble which adds about \$400,000 to the original estimate.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has offered to give

\$50,000 to Lewiston, Me., for a public library on condition that the city will provide a site and \$5,000 annually for its support.

THE Detroit Branch of the Archeological Institute of America, held its annual meeting in January. During the past year 64 new members were admitted and the fund contributed to the Institute reached \$1,042. The New York and Boston branches are now the only ones surpassing the Detroit branch in membership and activity. The committee, appointed to take steps for an archeological survey of Michigan, was increased to five, with instructions to work for the passage, at the present session of the Legislature, of a bill appropriating \$2,500 annually for investigating the antiquities of Michigan.

THE Turin Academy of Sciences will award, at the end of the year, its Bressa prize, of the value of nearly \$2,000, for the most important investigation or invention made during the past four years.

THE Röntgen Society, London, offers as a gift from its president, Dr. J. Macintyre, a gold medal to be awarded to the maker of the best X-ray tubes. They must be forwarded to 20 Hanóver Square, London, so that they arrive not later than May 1st of the present year.

SOME of the specimens in the Virchow collection in the Pathological Museum of the University of Berlin were destroyed by a fire on January 16th.

IN the House of Representatives, on February 1st, Mr. Southard, of Ohio, chairman of the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, asked unanimous consent to consider a bill to establish a national standardizing bureau. After some discussion it was agreed that the bill should be made a continuing order after the disposal of the bill to promote efficiency of the revenue cutter service.

THE New York State Medical Society, meeting at Albany, has passed the following resolution :

Whereas, Believing that the citizens of the State of New York, and liberal-minded men everywhere, are to be congratulated upon the establishment of the Pathological Institute of the New York State Hospitals, an institution founded for the investiga-

tion of the problems connected with insanity and related diseases and unique in the annals of medicine for the greatness of its opportunities, and most strongly recommending that the work of investigation for which the Institute was founded be sustained along its present lines of organization and principles of research ;

Therefore be it resolved, That we, the members of the Medical Society of the State of New York, respectfully request his Excellency the Governor to sustain the Pathological Institute of the New York State Hospitals ; that we beg him to give his support to its growth and development ; to protect it against further difficulties, and that we submit to his attention protests against the subversion of the work of the Pathological Institute along the lines laid out by the director, the work being upheld by a wide movement of the medical profession and prominent scientific men of this country and of Europe.

THE Forest, Fish and Game Commission bill introduced into the New York Legislature to carry out the Governor's recommendation, and abolishing the Fish and Game Commission, and turning its powers over to the Forest Preserve Board, was reported favorably in the Senate, amended so as to abolish the Forest Preserve Board, and substitute for the present Forest, Fish and Game Commission, a commission of three similar to the proposed new Prison Commission. One member of the commission will receive a salary which has been fixed at \$5,000. The other two will be selected from among the constitutional State officers, one of whom, it is agreed, will be Lieut.-Gov. Woodruff.

At the monthly general meeting of the Zoological Society of London on January 18th, it was stated that there had been 211 additions made to the society's menagerie during the month of December, amongst which special attention was directed to seven specimens of Verreaux's guinea fowl (*Guttera edouardi*), presented by J. F. Walker, of Bulawayo ; and to a valuable series of Indian birds lately presented to the society by Mr. E. W. Harper, F.Z.S., of Calcutta, consisting of examples of 20 species all new to the Society's collection. It was further stated that during the past month 20,931 persons had visited the Society's gardens, showing an increase of 6,605 as compared with the corresponding period of 1899.

MR. C. COLERIDGE FARR, in charge of magnetic work in New Zealand, has sent a letter to the editor of *Terrestrial Magnetism* in regard to the magnetic observatory soon to be erected at Christchurch, approximately in latitude $43^{\circ} 30' S.$, and longitude $172^{\circ} 38' E.$ New Zealand will owe this observatory to the labors of a committee, of which Mr. Farr is secretary, appointed at the beginning of last year by the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science. It will be the most southerly observatory in the world and will have an ideal situation in a magnetically uniform district, except for the possibility of disturbance by electric tramways, which, however, is not likely to occur, for some years and may be prevented altogether by legislation. It is hoped that the observatory will be in operation by the end of this year. Dr. Chree has undertaken the supervision of the construction of the magnetographs by Adie. Mr. Farr invites the various Antarctic expeditions that are soon to leave Europe to make any use they care to of the observatory, and expresses his willingness to give magnetic information or any other assistance. The Lyttelton Harbor Board has offered dock accommodation to the British National Expedition, and Mr. Farr thinks would doubtless extend the same courtesy of other expeditions. Another result of the labors of the above-mentioned committee is a small appropriation by Parliament to carry out some sort of magnetic survey of New Zealand. The Kew Observatory Committee has aided the work by the loan of a set of absolute instruments, with which observations have so far been made at 100 stations, chiefly in the middle island. In this Mr. Farr was ably assisted by Mr. H. F. Skey.

THE *British Medical Journal* reports that in the Budget of the Italian Minister of the Interior there will be included a sum of money for the prosecution of the campaign against malaria, which has already been begun in various parts of Italy under the influence of the experiments of Professors Celli and Grassi. This money will be devoted by the Government to the carrying out of new experiments and the establishment of prizes. The Italian parliament has before it a bill for the prevention of malaria, by which it would be made compulsory on all em-

ployers of labor in malarial districts to make provision for the lodging of laborers with proper precautions against infection in accordance with the present state of knowledge. They would further be compelled to supply remedies gratuitously to laborers who contract the disease until they have recovered their health. They would also have to build suitable dwellings for their laborers and proper lodging places for casual hands, all properly protected against malaria. Loans at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. would be advanced out of the public funds to small proprietors in order to enable them to comply with the obligations placed upon them by the bill. There is a clause exempting from taxation for twenty-five years new buildings erected for industrial purposes in malarial regions. Another clause provides that indemnities at fixed rates are to be paid to sick laborers and to their families by employers who fail to comply with the requirements of the bill.

THE *Evening Post* states that in consequence of the growth of German trade and commerce in all parts of the world, the German Emperor has decided to establish an institute for the study of oceanology, in Berlin, in connection with a naval museum. Both are to be part of the Berlin University, and will serve as an academy for naval instruction on the most modern system and in the widest sense of the word. One of the main objects is the instruction, not only of students in the subjects dealt with, but of all persons interested in them, including ships' captains, ship-owners, merchants, etc. The museum will be formed on a very large scale, the Emperor having ordered that all the naval collections at Wilhelmshaven, Dantzig, Kiel, and Hamburg shall be brought to Berlin, as well as all special collections in other museums, and the greater part of the German naval section exhibited in Paris last year. The Emperor has allotted two hundred and fifty thousand Marks for this purpose, and the Prussian Landtag has also made an appropriation. Though the institutions are still in course of formation, a series of free public lectures on oceanology, etc., by several of the leading German professors will be started at once. The program includes lectures on 'History and the Influence of Navigation,'

'The German Deep Sea Expedition,' 'The Polar Oceans and their Discovery,' 'Astronomy and Navigation,' 'The History and Use of Warships,' 'Oceanology and Navigation,' 'The Influence of Sea Power in History,' etc.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

By the provisions of the will of the late Benjamin D. Silliman, \$110,000 will ultimately revert to Yale University and \$10,000 to Columbia University. Yale University has also received from an anonymous donor \$100,000 for a new building for the medical school and \$6,000 from the family of the late Robert Callender, class of 1898, to found a scholarship.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER has agreed to give \$15,000 each to Mercer College, at Macon, Ga., Carson Newman College, at Mossy Creek, Tenn. and Des Moines College, at Des Moines, Ia., on the condition that each will raise subscriptions of \$60,750, to be paid in four annual payments.

THE Assembly of the State of California on January 29th passed the bill conferring full corporate powers and privileges on the trustees of Stanford University.

A SPECIAL committee of the Alumni of Stanford University, appointed last November, reported on January 26th, to a meeting of the alumni at San Francisco on the case of Professor Ross. The Committee calls attention to Professor Ross's pamphlet entitled 'An Honest Dollar' illustrated by political cartoons, published during the campaign of 1896, and states that Mrs. Stanford regarded this as undignified. The report continues:

The justice of the criticism expressed at the time the pamphlet was published must be deemed to be conceded by Dr. Ross, since it has been admitted by him to your committee that he would not again pursue the same course under similar circumstances.

Your committee has been unable to find any evidence that Mrs. Stanford ever took exception to Dr. Ross's economic teachings.

That her ultimate demand for his resignation was not due to opinions expressed in his speeches on 'Coolie Immigration' and the 'Twentieth Century City,' but was because she deemed that her original estimate had proved correct and that he was re-dis-

playing, after three years of trial, those qualities found objectionable in the instance of her original action.

The admission of Dr. Ross to your committee that he would not regard a university rule against the participation in politics by a university professor of economics during the progress of a political campaign, as impairing the proper right of academic freedom, disposes of his contention that the criticism of his conduct in 1896 is capable of that construction.

From the foregoing facts and upon the testimony as a whole your committee concludes that the action of Mrs. Stanford in asking the dismissal of Dr. Ross involved no infringement of the right of free speech.

The London *Times* devotes to the troubles at Coopers Hill College an editorial which begins as follows: "The Secretary of State for India will be guilty of a grave and lamentable error if he is induced by the promptings of official pedants to refuse the demand for inquiry into the recent dismissals at Coopers Hill College, so vigorously pressed in Lord Kelvin's succinct and forcible letter published in our columns on Saturday last. It is well to remember that one of the causes which contributed to the downfall of Mr. Gladstone's powerful administration in 1874 was Mr. Ayrton's insolent treatment of men of science. His contemptuous reference to his intellectual superiors, Sir Joseph Hooker and staff at Kew, as 'gardeners' placed a black mark against the name of the First Commissioner of Works of that day which was never obliterated and which drove him out of political life. The man in the street may not understand much about science, but he has a feeling of respect for scientific men who work for small rewards in the interests of truth and knowledge. The public is quick to resent injustice inflicted on a class who have little power of defending themselves and whose services are of enormous and increasing value to national progress."

It is reported in the papers that serious riots have occurred at Kieff University. Conflicts have taken place between the students and Cossacks, in which many of the former were killed or wounded.

DR. RICHARD EWALD has been promoted to a full professorship of physiology in the University at Strasburg.