

boundary between that country and Mexico. His services to Guatemala were so important that he was given an imposing public funeral at the expense of the government, the ceremonies taking place at the National School of Engineers and being attended by President Cabrera and his cabinet.

PROFESSOR MAX VON PETTENKOFER, of the University of Munich, the eminent authority on hygiene and bacteriology, has committed suicide at Munich. He was eighty-three years of age.

MR. R. D. LACOE, well known among geologists and paleontologists for his great aid in the advancement of the sciences of paleobotany and pale-entomology, died at his home in West Pittston, Pa., on the fifth of February.

PROFESSOR JOHN POTTER MARSHALL, until his retirement in 1899, professor of geology and mineralogy in Tufts College, died at his home at Tufts College on February 4th in his seventy-seventh year. He graduated from Yale College in 1844 and was one of the founders of Tufts College, where at first he had charge of all the scientific work, including mathematics, and where he held a professorship continuously for forty-five years.

PROFESSOR EDWARD ELBRIDGE SALISBURY, for sixty years professor of Arabic and Sanscrit at Yale University, died at New Haven on February 5th.

DR. WALTER MYERS, a member of the expedition of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine to Brazil, has died from yellow fever while engaged in investigating the disease. Dr. Myers was a graduate of the University of Cambridge and was only twenty-nine years of age.

THE death is announced in his seventieth year of Dr. Bernhardt Danckelmann, for the last 35 years director of the Prussian Royal Academy of Forestry at Eberswalde. He was one of the first to advocate the training of foresters in special colleges, and was the author of important works on forestry.

THE London *Times* announces the death, at Bois de Colombes at the age of 74, of M. Gramme, the eminent Belgian electrician. Brought up as a carpenter, he attended scientific lectures at Liège, where he showed a talent

for machinery, and then went to Paris to a manufactory of light house electric lamps. He next worked under Ruhmkorff and Disderi. In 1867 and 1872 he patented electric batteries and the dynamo. For the latter he received 20,000 f. from the French Government and the Volta prize of 20,000 f. from the Academy of Sciences.

THE will of the late Charles F. Emerson gives \$100,000 to the town of Castine, Maine, for a library.

WE learn from the *Electrical World* that the private electro-chemical laboratory of Mr. C. P. Steinmetz has been destroyed by fire, which probably had its origin in a coal stove. A considerable part of the apparatus was saved, but a number of interesting investigations being carried out in the laboratory are indefinitely delayed.

THE National Academy of Sciences has made a grant of \$500 to the University of California from the Draper fund for the promotion of scientific research, the money to be used in the construction of a first-class one-prism spectrograph for the Lick Observatory.

LORD RANFURLY, Governor of New Zealand, has secured a fine collection of birds for the British Museum, including the *Merganser Australis*, which is almost extinct, and specimens of two species new to science.

THE collection of birds and mammals formed by the late Geo. A. Boardman, of Calais, Me., will be removed to Fredericton, N. B., and will occupy a conspicuous place in one of the Government buildings.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

MESSRS. WILLIAM KEYSER, William Wyman and Francis W. Jenks have offered to give the Johns Hopkins University a new site, on condition that \$1,000,000 be collected for the University. The proposed site is some hundred and seventy acres in extent, and is valued at \$750,000. It is in the northern part of the city of Baltimore and is well adapted for the purposes of the University.

IT will be remembered that at the recent election an amendment to the constitution of the State of California was adopted, permitting the

Legislature to exempt portions of the property of Leland Stanford Junior University from taxation. A bill has now been passed to the third reading in the Assembly by a vote of 47 to 15, exempting from taxation the real estate occupied by the University and bonds held by it.

THE higher court has sustained the decision upholding the validity of the will of Colonel Joseph M. Bennett which, it will be remembered, left a large estate to the University of Pennsylvania.

By the will of Daniel A. Buckley, late publisher of the Cambridge (Mass.) *News*, an estate, valued at between \$50,000 and \$60,000, is bequeathed to the city of Cambridge to be used for the education at Harvard of such graduates of non-sectarian schools as a committee may deem worthy.

It appears that the school fund of the State of Minnesota has been increased by the discovery of iron ore. Ten million tons have been sold in position for \$2,500,000, and it is said that at least 50,000,000 tons can be disposed of in the same way. The State school fund now amounts to \$12,500,000, invested in bonds and securities, and the school and university lands are valued at more than \$20,000,000.

THE Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, N. Y., has in operation a new electrical laboratory containing sixteen machines, generators and transformers, together with a full equipment for practical tests. The laboratory for the testing of materials of engineering has been increased by the addition of one 300,000 pound testing machine and one 100,000 pound testing machine; and a 10,000 pound wire testing machine. There is also a new cement testing laboratory fully equipped for the most approved modern tests.

THE ladies of the Temple Emanu-El in San Francisco, one of the largest Jewish congregations on the Pacific Coast, have founded two graduate fellowships in Semitic languages in the University of California. They have pledged themselves to pay to the University in cash, within two years, the full amount of the endowment, \$15,000. Some years ago the ladies of the congregation presented to the university a

Semitic library of over three thousand volumes. Jacob Voorsanger, D.D., rabbi of the Temple Emanu-El, has for some years served without remuneration as professor of Semitic languages and literature in the university.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON has refused to grant the inquiry asked for by the dismissed members of the teaching staff at the Royal Indian Engineering College at Coopers Hill, but it is understood that leading English scientific men will continue the agitation for such an inquiry.

JOHN HUDSON PECK has resigned the presidency of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a committee of the Board of Trustees is considering a successor.

DR. FRED. C. ZAPFFE has been appointed professor of histology in the medical school of the University of Illinois.

DR. WALTER T. KRETZ has been appointed lecturer in astronomy in Columbia University.

W. SMYTHE JOHNSON, Ph.D. (Yale), has been appointed to the chair of psychology in the State Normal School at Natchitoches, and Dr. Matataro Matsumoto, assistant in the psychological laboratory of Yale University, has been appointed professor of psychology in the Imperial Normal School of Tokyo, Japan.

MR. P. V. BEVAN has been appointed an assistant demonstrator in physics at Cambridge University, and Mr. H. A. Wilson, has been elected to the Clerk Maxwell studentship in experimental physics.

MR. W. H. WILLCOX, M.B., B.Sc. (Lond.), has been elected to the post of lecturer on chemistry and physics at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, London.

DR. G. C. SCHMIDT, of Eberswalde, has been elected to an associate professorship of theoretical physics in the University of Erlangen. Dr. H. Boruttan, docent in the University of Göttingen, has been promoted to a professorship of physiology. Dr. Heyn, of the Mechanical Institute of Berlin, has been appointed professor of engineering in the Technical Institute at Stuttgart. At the same institution Dr. Englisch has qualified as docent in scientific photography. Dr. Max Reess, professor of botany in the University of Erlangen, has retired.