

# SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 1901.

JOSEPH LE CONTE.

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MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

JOSEPH LE CONTE was born in Liberty county, Georgia, on February 26, 1823 ; he died in Yosemite Valley, July 6, 1901. In the years spanned by these dates he lived a life well worthy of respectful commemoration, a life whose record must exercise a benign influence upon the rising generation of scientific workers. To make such a record is not the purpose of this brief article. Here all that may be attempted is a grateful acknowledgment of having known and worked with the man, to outline his career, to indicate the goal he aimed at and the chief turning points on the highway of his life as he pursued that goal, and to make some loving comment on the most salient features of his personality. To those who feel keenly, as the writer does, the imperfection of this sketch, it will be a satisfaction to know that at the time of his death Professor Le Conte was engaged upon, and had practically completed, his autobiography, and that this will be published at an early date.

Joseph Le Conte was of French descent. His earliest American ancestor was Guillaume Le Conte, a Huguenot, who fled from Rouen after the revocation of the edict of Nantes, served under William of Orange in England, and finally settled in this country near New York, in the year 1698. His grandson Louis was born in 1782, graduated