

some five thousand specimens, all authoritatively named, and many representing most remote localities.

The arrival of the Strecker material will increase the Museum collections by fully one hundred thousand specimens, among which are several hundred 'types.' Mr. William Beutenmüller, the curator of entomology, will personally attend to the details of transportation. The Museum will also receive the 'Strecker Library.'

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN.

FROM advance sheets of the administrative report of the Garden for 1901, it appears that during the past year \$44,409 was spent on the maintenance and improvement of the establishment, \$5,287.60 less than the net income for the year after providing for publications and certain fixed events designated in Henry Shaw's will, the total gross receipts being \$125,690.73.

91,262 persons visited the Garden, about 45 per cent. of this number on the first Sunday afternoon each in June and September, the only two holidays on which the Garden can be opened to the public.

The collection of living plants, which in 1900 contained 9,194 species or varieties, has been increased to 9,967. Nearly 3,000 surplus plants were distributed to hospitals and schools. Exchange relations were maintained with other botanical establishments, and in addition to what was derived from these sources the living collections were increased by an expenditure of \$2,829.61.

16,256 sheets of specimens were incorporated in the herbarium, on which \$1,175.39 was spent, and the herbarium is stated to consist now of about 365,000 specimens, valued at \$54,743.00.

\$2,688.71 was spent on the library, to which 929 books and 254 pamphlets were added, and the library now contains about 36,000 books and pamphlets, valued at \$60,305.00, in addition to which there are about 275,500 index cards.

The extent of the exchange relations of the Garden is shown by the Director's statement that 1,184 serial publications are received at

the library, of which 1,083 are received in exchange for the Reports of the Garden.

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

SEVERAL announcements of plans and progress are made by the National Geographic Society. A handsome building, costing \$50,000, is being erected for the Society and as a memorial to its first President, Hon. Gardiner Greene Hubbard. The building is located on the corner of M and 16th Streets, in the central part of the city.

The annual meeting of the Society was held on the 10th of January, Alexander Graham Bell in the chair. The membership of the Society is now about 2,700, representing every State in the Union. The following directors were elected for three years:

Alexander Graham Bell, General A. W. Greely, chief signal officer of the War Department; Henry Gannett, chief geographer of the U. S. Geological Survey; Angelo Heilprin, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia; Gifford Pinchot, forester of the U. S. Government; O. H. Tittmann, director of the Coast and Geodetic Survey; W J McGee, ethnologist in charge of the Bureau of American Ethnology, and Russell Hinman, New York City.

The National Geographic Society is already forming plans for the great International Congress of Geographers which will be held under its auspices in Washington in 1904. It is the first time the Congress has met in the Western Hemisphere. These geographic Congresses are of international importance and it is expected that representatives from all parts of the world will attend.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

AT the meeting of the Paris Academy of Sciences on January 6, M. Bouquet de la Grye, the engineer, succeeded to the presidency. M. Albert Gaudry, the paleontologist, was elected vice-president, and will be elected president next year.

THE Lavoisier medal of the Paris Academy of Sciences has been awarded to Dr. Emil Fischer, professor of chemistry in the University of Berlin.

DR. JOHN C. SMOCK, for many years state geologist of New Jersey, has been given the degree of LL.D. by Rutgers College.

MR. WILLIAM MARCONI was entertained by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers on January 15.

DR. T. C. CHAMBERLIN, professor of geology at the University of Chicago, has been re-elected president of the Chicago Academy of Sciences.

LORD KELVIN expects to visit the United States at the end of next month.

DR. B. O. PEIRCE, Hollis professor of mathematics and natural philosophy at Harvard University, has returned from Europe. He expects to resume the duties of his professorship at the beginning of next year.

PROFESSOR C. H. EIGENMANN has leave of absence during March, and will visit some of the caves of western Cuba to secure a series of the cave fauna and especially specimens of the cave fishes *Stygicola* and *Lucifuga*.

PROFESSOR MORTIMER E. COOLEY, head of the department of mechanical engineering in the University of Michigan, was nominated for the presidency of the Michigan Engineering Society, at the session of January 8, held at Grand Rapids.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM HALLOCK, of Columbia University, has been elected president of the New York State Teachers' Science Association.

PROFESSOR KOSSEL, who holds the chair of physiology at Heidelberg, has been elected a member of the Stockholm Academy of Sciences.

PROFESSOR SADEBECK, director of the Botanical Museum at Hamburg, has retired.

THE Colonial Museum at Harlem has arranged to commemorate, on June 15, the two-hundredth anniversary of the death of the naturalist, Rumphius, who for forty years carried on work in botany and other branches of natural history on the Island Amboina, one of the Molucca Islands. A medal will be struck which can be obtained, silver or bronze, and a memorial book will be issued.

A COMMITTEE has been formed at Cromarty, the birthplace of Hugh Miller, the purposes of which are to erect a museum and library to celebrate the centenary of Hugh Miller's birth.

DR. ALPHEUS HYATT, curator of the Boston Society of Natural History, assistant in invertebrate paleontology in the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology and professor of biology and zoology in Boston University, one of the most eminent of American naturalists, died suddenly from apoplexy at Cambridge on January 15, aged sixty-three years.

MR. J. F. WARD, a well-known engineer, died on January 16, aged seventy-one years.

T. T. T. THORELL, a distinguished arachnologist, died at Helsingborg, Sweden, on December 23, in his seventy-second year.

DR. C. P. TIELE, professor of comparative religions at the University at Leyden, died on January 13 at the age of seventy-one years.

DR. HUGO VON PERGER, professor of applied chemistry in the Technological Institute in Vienna, has died at the age of fifty-nine years.

MR. JAMES P. SHIPMAN, who published a number of papers on the geology and paleontology of the region about Nottingham, recently died at the age of fifty-three years.

THE position of chief mechanic in the National Bureau of Standards at a salary of \$1,400 will be filled by civil service examination on February 26.

WE learn from *Nature* that Dr. W. A. Herdman, F.R.S., professor of zoology at University College, Liverpool, sailed for Ceylon on December 26, 1901, to undertake for the government an investigation of the pearl oyster fisheries of the Gulf of Manaar. He is accompanied by an assistant, and in Ceylon the inspector of the fisheries and his staff will co-operate and provide boats and divers. A suitable steamer for dredging and trawling will be placed at Professor Herdman's disposal by the Government of Ceylon; and the necessary gear and apparatus for collecting and observational work, and for biological experiments, have been sent out in advance. Professor Herdman has arranged to take samples

of the plankton throughout the voyage to Ceylon, and to launch current-floats at particular parts of the course.

REUTER'S representative has had an interview with Captain J. E. Bernier, the Canadian explorer, who is organizing an arctic expedition. Since his last visit to England, when he lectured before the Colonial Institute, he has been in Canada, where he has secured the active support and cooperation of the Dominion Government for his scheme. Captain Bernier, who is devoting his services gratuitously, estimates the cost of his expedition at £30,000. Of this he has already secured £20,000, including a contribution of £1,250 from the Dominion Government, and £1,000 from Lord Strathcona, besides large donations from Canadian ministers, members of Parliament, merchants and others. Captain Bernier is now in London with the object of procuring from English subscribers the balance of £10,000 necessary for his scheme.

THROUGH the kindness of Mr. B. Talbot B. Hyde, there was an exhibition of the weaving of Navajo blankets and of beaten silver ornaments by Navajo Indians from New Mexico in the Educational Museum of Teachers College, Columbia University, on January 13.

THE Montreal correspondent of the New York *Evening Post* reports that the Hon. E. H. Monson, of Ottawa, has given a sum of money to the medical faculty for researches into possible cures for tuberculosis. They are to be carried on by Dr. A. G. Nicholls, lecturer in pathology, under the direction of Dr. J. G. Adami, professor of pathology.

A BACTERIOLOGICAL institute has been established at Davos, Switzerland.

THE trustees of the estate of the late Nathan Haskell Dole have given \$100,000 for the Boston Public Library.

THE membership of the New York Zoological Society, according to the report of the executive committee, submitted at the sixth annual meeting on Jan. 14, is now 1,063, and is steadily increasing. The total attendance at the park in the past year was 527,145, the greatest attendance on one day being 20,206,

on Sunday, August 24. The important work done included the erection of the Primates' House, at a cost of \$64,160; the beginning of the Lion House, to cost, when complete, about \$150,000; the extension of the sewer and water systems of the park, at a cost of \$10,406, and the development of Mountain Sheep Hill and enclosures, at a cost of \$2,500. Director Hornaday reported that the Zoological Park now contains 1,674 live exhibits, of which 416 are mammals, 659 birds and 599 reptiles.

A PETITION has been presented to King Edward for the incorporation of the British Academy for the Promotion of Historical, Philosophical and Philological Studies, and has been referred to a committee of Lords in Council.

REPRESENTATIVE SOUTHARD, of Ohio, chairman of the House Committee on Coinage, has sent invitations to a number of the chief manufacturers, merchants and others engaged in mercantile pursuits, to appear before the Coinage Committee on February 6 at a hearing on the bill for the adoption of the metric system of weights and measures.

THE Treasury agents state that during the past season an epidemic has prevailed among the murre, of the Pribilof Islands, and that the birds, which are found there in vast numbers, have perished by thousands. The first intimation of disease was the presence of birds about the village of St. Paul, close in shore, so weak that they were readily taken by the children. Later dead birds washed ashore in such numbers that 212 were counted in 150 yards, while steamers from St. Michaels reported passing through large quantities of dead birds. This recalls the epidemic which has twice prevailed among the cormorants of the Commander Islands, greatly reducing their numbers.

THE following lectures before the Franklin Institute, of Philadelphia, are announced:

January 17—'The Austrian and Italian Tyrol': DR. CHARLES L. MITCHELL, Philadelphia.

January 24—'The Aborigines of the Arid Region': PROFESSOR W J MCGEE, Bureau of American Ethnology, Washington, D. C.

January 31—'Porto Rico': MAJOR GEO. G. GROFF, late Superintendent of Public Instruction in Porto Rico, Lewisburgh, Pa.

February 7—'The Gases of the Atmosphere': DR. H. F. KELLER, Central High School, Philadelphia.

February 14—'The Canyons and Sierras of the Great Southwest': MR. ROBERT T. HILL, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

WE have already noted the bequest to the Natural History Museum, London, by Mr. Philip Crowley, of the valuable collection of birds' eggs. In accordance with the terms of the will the trustees were permitted to take four clutches of eggs of each species, or more, should any species be useful or interesting by reason of variety or locality. The selection, the *London Times* states, has recently been completed, with the result that 15,200 eggs of birds have been added to the series of eggs preserved in the zoological department of the museum. The Crowley bequest falls only a few specimens short of the series of Indian birds' eggs presented to the nation by Mr. Allan Hume in 1885. Mr. Crowley began to form his collection more than forty years ago, one of his great acquisitions being Canon Tristram's fine collection, which contained an egg of the great auk and one of the Labrador duck. These two rare eggs now pass into the possession of the national museum—a matter of some satisfaction, as hitherto the great auk has been represented in Cromwell Road by two very poor and broken specimens. The Crowley great auk's egg was bought in 1853 for £35. A very fine specimen which came into the market last year realized 315 guineas. One of the most interesting features of the Crowley collection is the remarkable series of cuckoo's eggs with those of the foster-parents. Of these there are as many as 87 different clutches, while 37 species are represented. As regards Australian birds the museum series has hitherto been markedly deficient, and as the Crowley collection was particularly rich in the eggs of that continent the increase in this respect is very appreciable. From a rough estimate it appears that the series of eggs in the Natural History Museum has been increased by nearly a third in respect of numbers, and as regards the species represented, by at least 15 per cent. Mr. Crowley also left the museum the pick of his valuable collection

of exotic butterflies. The number of specimens retained for the museum was nearly 27,000, representing about 9,900 species. The selection made will enable the museum authorities to fill important gaps in the collection, which was most deficient in examples from the localities in which the Crowley collection was especially rich—namely, West Africa, the Moluccas, and Central and Southern America.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

AMONG the gifts recently received by the University of Pennsylvania are: Mr. William Ivins, \$2,500 for the new Medical Laboratories; Mr. James Hay, \$2,500 for the Engineering Departments; Mr. Ralph C. Stewart, '99 C. and '02 L., \$5,000 towards the new building of the Department of Law.

GENERAL ISAAC J. WISTAR has paid \$12,000 for a triangular lot of ground at Thirty-seventh Street and Woodland Avenue, on which a city police station now stands. The land will be presented to the University of Pennsylvania, so that the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, which adjoins on the east, and which is also a gift of General Wistar to the University, may be enlarged.

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER has promised to double all sums of money given to Vassar College up to \$200,000, between this time and June, 1902.

DR. HENRY HOPKINS, a congregational clergyman, has been elected president of Williams College. He is the son of Mark Hopkins, who was president of the college from 1836 to 1872.

DR. SAMUEL WEIR, formerly of New York University, has accepted a lectureship in pedagogy at the University of Cincinnati, for the remainder of this year.

DR. HANS DORFF, docent in astronomy and mathematics in the University at Leipzig, has been appointed to an assistant professorship. Dr. K. Zeissig has been appointed assistant professor of physics at the Technical Institute at Darmstadt, and Dr. Parmentier assistant professor of botany at the University of Besançon.