

American physicist, including those who are either ashamed of their birthright, or of so vast a stature and cast in such an heroic mould that they must seek their compeers abroad—if all American physicists were to unite to publish in a national journal only, I believe the result would mark an epoch in the history of the importance of American contributions to physics.

CARL BARUS.

BROWN UNIVERSITY,  
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

#### THE CENTENARY OF HUGH MILLER.

ON the 10th of October, 1802, Hugh Miller was born at Cromarty, Scotland.

The folk of that picturesque town, whose surroundings were the inspiration of Hugh Miller's remarkable achievements in science, literature and philosophy, and the Scottish people generally, have proposed to commemorate this one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of their distinguished countryman by erecting in the town of his birth a permanent memorial of his work and worth.

It is now hoped that this proposition will meet a response sufficiently cordial and generous to justify the foundation of a Hugh Miller Institute which will serve, not alone as a resting place for the personal relics of the man, but the home of scientific collections and a library. The anniversary day, October 10, 1902, will also be commemorated by special ceremonies.

The local committee to carry into effect the centenary project has issued a circular in which the foregoing propositions are set forth, and which also contains this statement:

"The proposal has the support of the following:

"Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Secretary for Scotland; Sir Archibald Geikie, F.R.S., LL.D.; Professor Masson, LL.D.; Sir Walter Foster, M.P.; Sir John Long, M.P.; C. J. Guthrie, K.C., Sheriff of Ross and Cromarty; W. C. Smith, LL.B.; W. Robertson Nicoll, LL.D.; Arthur Bignold, Esq., M.P.; Principal Rainy, D.D.; Alexander Whyte, D.D.; Colonel Ross, C.B., of Cromarty; The Provost and Magistrates of Cromarty; Mr. James Barron, *Inverness Courier*."

No American geologist of the generation now in the full swing of its activity can have

failed to come, in his early days, under the inspiration of this unique man. When textbooks of geology were few and dull, Miller portrayed in most delightful tints the beauties of the science and the charm of its philosophy. To intelligent readers of English-speaking peoples he unfolded the science in a new light; in diction his writings are a model still unattained and seldom approached by his successors; in vigor, relentless sequence, charm of anecdote and reminiscence they will never lose attractiveness and influence.

The undersigned has been asked by Mr. J. Bain, Hon. Secretary of the Hugh Miller Centenary Committee, to act as its agent in soliciting and receiving subscriptions in the United States for the end stated. Remittances will therefore be gladly received by the undersigned and acknowledgment of the same will be made by the Hon. Secretary. Checks or other orders may be made payable to

JOHN M. CLARKE,  
*For the Committee.*

STATE HALL, ALBANY, N. Y.

#### THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE. SECTION B, PHYSICS.

ATTENTION is called to the coming meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in Pittsburg, Pa., June 28 to July 3. The accessibility of Pittsburg from all parts of the country and the interest which attaches to the great manufacturing industries located there, add much to the already favorable prospects for a large and important meeting. The proposed meeting of the American Physical Society in affiliation with the American Association offers an additional attraction to physicists.

It is hoped that a full and interesting program may be secured in Section B and to this end you are requested to send titles and abstracts of papers, available for this purpose, to the Secretary of the Section. Titles should be sent in time to appear in the preliminary program which will be issued several weeks prior to the meeting.

E. F. NICHOLS, *Secretary*,  
Hanover, N. H.  
W. S. FRANKLIN, *Vice-President*,  
South Bethlehem, Pa.