

# SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 1902.

## INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT BUTLER, OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

### CONTENTS:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <i>Inaugural Address of President Butler, of Columbia University</i> .....   | 641 |
| <i>Types and Synonyms: O. F. COOK</i> .....  | 646 |
| <i>Meeting of the Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science</i> ....  | 657 |
| <i>Scientific Books:—</i>  |     |
| <i>The Dutch Expedition to the Malay Archipelago: PROFESSOR BASHFORD DEAN.</i>   |     |
| <i>Nemec's Die Reizleitung bei den Pflanzen: PROFESSOR C. R. BARNES.</i>   |     |
| <i>Roscoe-Schramm's Chemie: R. H. CHITTENDEN.</i>  |     |
| <i>Von Zittel's History of Geology and Paleontology: PROFESSOR JOHN J. STEVENSON</i> ..  | 658 |
| <i>Scientific Journals and Articles</i> .....  | 662 |
| <i>Societies and Academies:—</i>   |     |
| <i>The National Academy of Sciences. The Geological Society of Washington: ALFRED H. BROOKS. The Chemical Society of Washington: L. S. MUNSON. Boston Society of Natural History: GLOVER M. ALLEN. The Academy of Sciences of St. Louis: PROFESSOR WILLIAM TRELEASE</i> .....  | 663 |
| <i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>   |     |
| <i>The American Association for the Advancement of Science (Section D, Mechanical Science and Engineering): PROFESSOR J. J. FLATHER. (Section A, Mathematics and Astronomy): PROFESSOR EDWIN S. CRAWLEY. Central Control of the Experimental Stations: PROFESSOR E. W. HILGARD. The Submarine Valleys of the California Coast: W. S. TANGIER SMITH</i> ..... | 668 |
| <i>Shorter Articles:—</i>  |     |
| <i>How Many One-dollar Bills Will Equal in Weight a Five-dollar Gold Piece? J. FRANKLIN MESSENGER</i> .....  | 672 |
| <i>Recent Progress in Petrology:—</i>  |     |
| <i>Chemical Classification of Eruptive Rocks; Gneisses of the Schwarzwald; Sequence of Volcanic Rocks: DR. F. L. RANSOME</i> .....   | 673 |
| <i>The Alaska Fuel Supply</i> .....  | 674 |
| <i>Cruise of the Albatross</i> .....   | 675 |
| <i>Scientific Notes and News</i> .....   | 675 |
| <i>University and Educational News</i> .....   | 679 |

For these kindly and generous greetings I am profoundly grateful. To make adequate response to them is beyond my power. The words that have been spoken humble as well as inspire. They express a confidence and hopefulness which it will tax human capacity to the utmost to justify, while they picture a possible future for this University which fires the imagination and stirs the soul. We may truthfully say of Columbia, as Daniel Webster said of Massachusetts, that her past, at least, is secure; and we look into the future with high hope and happy augury.

To-day it would be pleasant to dwell upon the labors and the service of the splendid body of men and women, the University's teaching scholars, in whose keeping the honor and the glory of Columbia rest. Their learning, their devotion, and their skill call gratitude to the heart and words of praise to the lips. It would be pleasant, too, to think aloud of the procession of men which has gone out from Columbia's doors for well-nigh a century and a half to serve God and the State; and of those younger ones who are even now lighting the lamps of their lives at the altar-fires of eternal youth. Equally pleasant would it be to pause to tell those who