

ANOTHER HODGKINS GOLD MEDAL
AWARDED.

IN March last, Secretary Langley, of the Smithsonian Institution, appointed a committee to consider whether any discovery had been made since the award of the first Hodgkins Gold Medal in 1899, under the general terms of the gift, 'the increase and diffusion of more exact knowledge in regard to the nature and properties of atmospheric air in connection with the welfare of man,' which would render it proper that such a medal should be again awarded. This committee consisted of the following distinguished men of science: Mr. Richard Rathbun, assistant secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Chairman; Doctor A. Graham Bell, for electricity; Doctor Ira Remsen, for chemistry; Doctor Charles D. Walcott, for geology; Professor E. C. Pickering, for astronomy; Doctor Theodore N. Gill, for biology; Professor Cleveland Abbe, for meteorology; Mr. William H. Holmes, for anthropology, and Mr. S. W. Stratton, for physics.

Owing to the absence of Mr. Rathbun, Doctor Remsen served as chairman at a meeting of the committee held at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, April 15, 1902. At this meeting the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

That the committee recommend to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution that it is desirable that one of the Hodgkins gold medals be struck, and that it be awarded to J. J. Thomson, of Cambridge, England, for his investigations on the conductivity of gases, especially on the gases that compose the atmospheric air.

The finding of the committee being approved by the secretary, steps were at once taken to have the second Hodgkins gold medal struck under the personal supervision of its designer, Monsieur J. C. Chaplain, of Paris. The medal has recently been received by the Institution and has been despatched to Professor Thomson through the Department of State.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

THE Academy held its autumn meeting at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, on

November 11 and 12. The scientific program was as follows:

'A Possible Explanation of the Difficult Solubility of Certain Compounds Containing Fluorine and Hydroxyl,' S. L. PENFIELD.

'The Spectra of Stars of Secchi's Fourth Type,' GEORGE E. HALE.

'Biographical Memoir of Henry A. Rowland,' T. C. MENDENHALL.

'The Embryology of *Salpa Cordiformis*,' W. K. BROOKS.

'The Occurrence of Reef Corals near Beaufort, N. C.,' CASWELL GRAVE (introduced by W. K. BROOKS).

'The Trematode Parasites of the Oyster,' D. H. TENNENT (introduced by W. K. BROOKS).

'The Preparation of Cells for the Measurement of Osmotic Pressure,' H. N. MORSE (introduced by IRA REMSEN).

'A Substance with Remarkable Optical Properties, and Screens Transparent only to Ultra-Violet Light,' R. W. WOOD (introduced by IRA REMSEN).

'On Displacement Currents,' J. B. WHITEHEAD (introduced by IRA REMSEN).

'On the Spectrum of Hydrogen,' L. A. PARSONS (introduced by IRA REMSEN).

'A New System of Positions for Standard Stars, with Notes relative to its bearing upon Sideral Astronomy,' LEWIS BOSS.

'Complete Skeleton and Restoration of the Cretaceous Fish *Porthetus Molossus* Cope,' H. F. OSBORN.

'A New Small Dinosaur from the Jurassic or Como Beds of Wyoming, apparently a Bird-catcher,' H. F. OSBORN.

'New or little-known Elephants and Mastodons of North America,' H. F. OSBORN.

'On Elevated Oceanic Islands in the Pacific,' A. AGASSIZ.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

WE regret to announce the death of Professor Ogden Nicholas Rood which occurred from pleuropneumonia at his home in New York City on November 12. He was born in Danbury, Conn., in 1831, graduated from Princeton College in 1852, spent four years in study in Germany, from 1858 to 1863 was professor of chemistry and physics at Troy University and has for the past thirty-nine years been professor of physics in Columbia University. Professor Rood had been vice-president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and was a member of the National Academy of Sciences. He was eminent for his researches in experimental

physics. We hope to publish subsequently an account of his life and work.

PROFESSOR J. J. THOMSON, the eminent physicist of Cambridge University, has been invited to be the first lecturer at Yale University on the Silliman foundation. This lectureship, endowed by the late Benjamin Silliman with \$85,000, is somewhat similar to the Gifford lectures of the Scottish universities, providing for a course of lectures 'the general tendency of which may be such as will illustrate the presence and wisdom of God as manifested in the natural and moral world.' The lectures, however, must not be 'on topics appropriate to polemical or dogmatic theology.'

DR. W. J. MCGEE, ethnologist in charge, Bureau of American Ethnology, has been appointed by the President, through the Secretary of State, to represent the United States on the American International Archeological Commission, whose creation was recommended by the second International Conference of American States held in Mexico last winter.

PROFESSOR J. WILLARD GIBBS, of Yale University, has been elected a corresponding member of the Munich Academy of Science.

THE Academy of Natural Science of Philadelphia has, on the recommendation of its special committee, consisting of Theo. D. Rand, Amos P. Brown, R. A. F. Penrose, Jr., and Henry Fairfield Osborn, conferred the gold medal of the Hayden Memorial Geological Award for 1902 on Sir Archibald Geikie, LL.D., D.Sc., late director general of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and Ireland.

MR. J. S. DILLER, of the U. S. Geological Survey, who spent the field season in geological work in northern California, has returned to Washington.

PROFESSOR F. S. EARLE, assistant curator at the New York Botanical Garden, is in Jamaica in company with the Hon. Wm. Fawcett, director of the public gardens and plantations, for the purpose of making an investigation of the diseases of logwood, banana, cocoanut, ginger, pineapple and other economic plants of the island. Dr. M. A. Howe, assistant curator, is making an exten-

sive survey of the algal flora of the Florida Keys.

THE Peary Arctic Club gave a dinner in honor of Commander Peary on November 13, the president of the club, Mr. Morris K. Jesup, presiding.

AT the banquet in honor of Drs. William W. Keen and Horatio C. Wood, at Philadelphia on November 6, Dr. William H. Welch, of Baltimore, proposed the toast 'Medicine,' to which Dr. Wood responded. Dr. William B. Coley, of New York City, gave the toast 'Surgery,' to which Dr. Keen made response. Dr. J. Chalmers Da Costa spoke to the toast 'The Pupil in Surgery,' and presented Dr. Keen with a loving cup. Dr. Hobart A. Hare replied to the toast 'The Pupil in Medicine,' and presented a loving cup to Dr. Wood.

DR. MAX WOLF, of the Observatory on Königstuhl, Heidelberg, has lengthened indefinitely the government appointment of Mr. R. S. Dugan, as his assistant. Mr. Dugan graduated at Amherst College in 1899, and after being Professor Todd's assistant, was in the Beirut Observatory for three years. He discovered a new planet (KA) at Heidelberg on October 25.

MR. GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY, lecturer in anthropology at Yale University, has been appointed curator of the anthropological collections in the University Museum.

PRESIDENT PRITCHETT, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, lectured at Buffalo before the Association of College Alumni on November 17, his subject being 'The Place of Industrial Training in the Education of a Modern Nation.'

THE eightieth birthday of Professor Friedrich von Esmarch, the eminent German surgeon, will be celebrated next year by the erection of a monument in his native town of Tönning.

DR. A. R. C. SOLWYN, formerly director of the Geological Survey of Canada, died at Vancouver on October 19, aged seventy-eight years.

MR. WILLIAM GUNN, F.G.S., district geologist in the Geological Survey of Great Britain and Ireland, died on October 23, aged sixty-five years.

THE death is also announced at the age of sixty-two years of Professor Eugen Hahn, director of the surgical department of the Berlin Municipal Hospital.

SIR ANDREW NOBLE has given £150 and Dr. Ludwig Mond £200 to the Royal Institution for the fund for the promotion of experimental research at low temperatures.

A REUTER'S telegram from Kingstown states that the *Scotia*, which is taking out the Scottish Antarctic Expedition, under the command of Lieutenant Bruce, arrived there on November 3, after a favorable passage. The ship is satisfactory in every way. The yachts *Gleniffer* and *Triton* were still in company with the *Scotia*.

THE Engineers' Club of Philadelphia will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary by a banquet on December 6.

WE learn from the *National Geographic Magazine* that on October 17 a number of scientific men and of those interested in geographic science met in Baltimore at the home of Dr. D. C. Gilman and organized the 'Geographical Society of Baltimore.' The aim of the society is the promotion and diffusion of geographical knowledge, more particularly of that which is of commercial importance to Baltimore. Vice-president W J McGee, LL.D., represented the National Geographic Society and extended its congratulations and well wishes to the new organization. Dr. Gilman, who is also one of the board of managers of the National Geographic Society, was chosen first president and the following officers and trustees were elected: First vice-president, Mr. Bernard N. Baker; second vice-president, Rev. Dr. John F. Goucher; third vice-president, Gen. Lawrason Riggs.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE University of Pennsylvania has received \$100,000 from Dr. E. W. and Clarence H. Clark for a chair in Assyriology, to which Dr. Hilprecht has been appointed.

Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Herter, of New York City, have given \$25,000 to Johns Hopkins

University for the foundation of a memorial lectureship in the medical department 'designed to promote a more intimate knowledge of the researches of foreign investigators in the realm of medical science.' This end is to be secured by inviting each year some eminent worker in physiology or pathology to deliver one or more lectures at the university on some subject with which he is especially identified. The lecturer will receive an honorarium, the annual income of the endowment fund. The committee to select the lecturer will consist of Drs. William H. Welch, William Osler and John J. Abel, and it is intended to continue this committee so as to represent pathology, physiological chemistry and clinical medicine. There is no bar to extending the proposed lectureship to leaders in medical research in America if deemed advisable. Dr. Herter was a graduate student at the university in 1887-88, pursuing a special course in Dr. Welch's laboratory.

THE University of Tennessee will inaugurate at the beginning of January a department of education modeled on the Teachers College, Columbia University. The newly appointed professors include in the science and art of teaching, Professor P. P. Claxton, head professor of the department, formerly professor of pedagogy in the North Carolina Normal and Industrial Institute at Greensboro, now chief of the bureau of the Southern Education Board, and superintendent of the Summer School of the South; in philosophy and history of education, Professor Wycliffe Rose, formerly professor in the Peabody Normal School, University of Nashville; in educational psychology and ethics, Professor B. B. Breese, a graduate of Harvard University and doctor of philosophy of Columbia University.

DR. H. KOBALD, first observer in the astronomical observatory at Kiel, has been appointed to an associate professorship in the university.

MR. W. H. R. RIVERS, university lecturer in physiological and experimental psychology at Cambridge University, has been elected a fellow of St. John's College.