

bottom lands, the possibility of diverting water to them, and the probable expense of their reclamation. The average rainfall at Camp Mohave is only 5.99 inches per annum, and at Yuma it is 3.06 inches per annum, while the temperatures are such as to provide twelve growing months in the year. The Colorado River derives its principal source of water supply from the melting snow on the high mountains of Utah, Colorado and Wyoming. It reaches the stage of maximum flow—approximately 50,000 cubic feet per second—in the months of May and June, when the demand for irrigation is normally the highest; its minimum flow—about 4,000 cubic feet per second—occurs in the months of January and February, at the time of least demand. The opportunities for storage on this stream are very great. The silts of the river are difficult to handle in canals, but the fertilizing properties which they have are such that lands irrigated with these muddy waters will never require further fertilization. Mr. R. H. Forbes, of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Tucson, Ariz., who has made a study of the silt in the Colorado River, has pointed out that this stream resembles the Nile in many particulars. Like the great river of Egypt, the Colorado is subject to an annual summer rise sufficient to overflow the extensive areas of its borders and delta lands. These high waters are rich in fertilizing sediments, are exceptionally free from alkaline salts, and come at an opportune time for irrigation. Mr. Forbes maintains that when the Colorado is understood and utilized as successfully as the greater and better-known Egyptian stream, it will be recognized as the American Nile—the creator of a new country for the irrigator, the mother of an occidental Egypt.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

By the will of the late Professor Sylvester Waterhouse, of St. Louis, Washington University received \$25,000, and Harvard University and Dartmouth College each \$5,000. The bequest to Washington University is to accumulate until the year 2000.

SIR WILLIAM MACDONALD, of Montreal, has donated a further sum of \$4,500 to the Macdonald Institute at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, to complete the furnishing. This makes a total of \$175,000 given by Sir William to this institute.

S. M. INMAN, of Atlanta, Ga., has given \$25,000 toward the proposed presbyterian university to be erected in that city.

THE new library building given to Trinity College at Durham, N. C., by Mr. James E. Duke, was formally opened on February 23. The dedicatory address was given by Mr. Walter H. Page of New York.

THE Association of the Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Middle States and Maryland will hold its next annual meeting at Columbia University, November 27 and 28.

At the mid-winter commencement of the University of Nebraska, on February 16, 1903, degrees were conferred as follows: Bachelors of Arts, 17; Bachelors of Science, 7; Doctor of Medicine, 1; Master of Arts, 1; Doctor of Philosophy, 1. Eleven graduates were given University Teachers' certificates. The thesis presented by the candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Haven Metcalf, was in botany, and consisted of a discussion of the cause and nature of a disease of sugar-beets, to which the name of 'sour rot' has been applied.

THE chair of physiology at the Harvard Medical School, occupied by Professor H. P. Bowditch, will hereafter be known as the George Higginson Professorship.

DR. GEORGE B. HALSTED, late of the University of Texas, has been elected to the chair of mathematics of St. John's College, Annapolis, Md., to succeed Professor John L. Chew.

DR. ALEXANDER JOHNSON, dean of the faculty of arts and professor of pure mathematics, and the Rev. Dr. J. Clark Murray, professor of mental and moral philosophy, have resigned their appointments at McGill University, to take effect September 1, 1903. They retire in accordance with the pension scheme formulated last year by the board of governors.