

issued by the Observatory and the Nautical Almanac Office.

A large part of his energies was devoted through many years to service as a member of the Transit of Venus Commission.

During the past year it has been a special cause of regret to him that feebleness of body should compel him to forego participation in scientific work; meanwhile continually hoping soon to recover strength sufficiently to permit his return to Washington to complete various pieces of scientific work.

His energy and faithfulness should be emulated by all. His example should spur us on to greater faithfulness, activity and zeal in carrying on labors commenced by him and providentially committed to us to continue.

By unanimous vote it was resolved that the superintendent of the Naval Observatory be requested to place the above tribute to the memory of the late Professor William Harkness on the records of the Observatory, and to transmit a copy to the members of his family.

The foregoing minute having been read Mr. Thomas Harrison, the oldest associate of Professor Harkness at the observatory, made the following remarks, which by unanimous vote were appended to the minutes:

On this sad occasion, Mr. Chairman, I can not forbear to say a word, though it be only to regret my inability adequately to express the regard I have for many years entertained for the man whose memory we have met to honor.

It would be unbecoming in me to speak of his great and valuable labors at the Naval Observatory, the results of which have done so much to sustain the high reputation in this country and abroad that is now enjoyed by the Institution with which his name has been so long associated. These labors fall appropriately under the notice of those present who were his collaborators in the same field, and who can more readily than myself comprehend their magnitude and their value. But a personal reference may be allowed.

Professor Harkness came to the Observatory during the stirring events of 1862, when in the vigor of early manhood. He was as-

signed at once to the rank among scientists due to his varied attainments; and his life work then auspiciously begun, continued, ever widening in scope and influence, to the day of his death, which has just been announced.

The fact that I was permitted to enjoy his friendship will always be classed with the happy circumstances of my official life—a friendship which began 41 years ago, and continued to the moment he was stricken by the hand of death.

The often-quoted lines of Horace on the 'Just Man,' may well be applied to William Harkness.

March 2, 1903.

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

A NOBEL Prize Committee has been organized in Great Britain with Lord Avebury as chairman.

MR. WILLIAM R. MERRIAM has resigned the directorship of the census.

M. LÉON LABBÉ, the surgeon and anatomist, has been elected a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences.

THE University of Glasgow will on April 21 confer the degree of LL.D. on Sir William Tennant Gairdner, emeritus professor of medicine in the University of Glasgow; Sir Norman Lockyer, F.R.S., director of the Solar Physics Observatory, South Kensington; Dr. Thomas Oliver, professor of physiology in the University of Durham and Mr. Philip Watts, F.R.S., director of naval construction, Admiralty, London.

THE University of Edinburgh will confer the LL.D. degree on Dr. Arthur Gambee, emeritus professor of physiology, Owen's College, Manchester; on Sir Norman M'Laurin, M.D., chancellor of the University of Sydney, and on Mr. Benjamin Peach, of the Scottish Geological Survey.

DR. WILLIAM R. BROOKS, director of Smith Observatory and professor of astronomy in Hobart College, has been awarded the Comet medal of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific for the discovery of his twenty-third

comet. This is the seventh award of the medal to Dr. Brooks.

PROFESSOR EDWARD S. DANA, of Yale University, whose ill health during the past three years has compelled him to give up the larger part of his class work, has gone to the Bermudas, where he will remain for several months.

DR. J. T. ROTHROCK offered his resignation as commissioner of forestry of Pennsylvania, but later was induced by the governor to recall it.

OTTO J. KLOTZ, astronomer of the Department of the Interior, Canada, leaves shortly for the Pacific, in charge of the longitude determinations along the British Pacific cable. By this work the earth will for the first time be girdled in longitude. The stations occupied will be Vancouver, Fanning, Suva, Norfolk and Southport, near Brisbane, Australia. Connection will also be made with New Zealand from Norfolk, where the cable bifurcates.

PROFESSOR L. M. UNDERWOOD, of Columbia University, spent part of January and February in Jamaica, studying the ferns of that island; this month he is making similar investigations in Cuba. Dr. N. L. Britton, director of the New York Botanical Garden, is also in Cuba.

THE board of governors of the University Club, Philadelphia, tendered a reception and dinner to Dr. S. Weir Mitchell on Friday evening, February 27.

A COMPLIMENTARY dinner will be offered to Sir William White, F.R.S., lately director of naval construction to the British government, on March 26.

A SOUVENIR number of the *Zeitschrift für Ohren-Heilkunde* was presented to Professor F. Bezold, known for his researches on the sense of hearing and its diseases, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his professional career by his pupils and assistants.

DR. E. HITZIG, director of the clinic for nervous diseases and the polyclinic at Halle, especially known for his experiments on cerebral localization, has resigned his professional duties on account of a progressive eye affection.

CAPTAIN EDWARD APPLETON HAVEN, of Lynn, who has been selected as first officer of the steamer *America* on the Zeigler polar expedition is about to leave for Norway.

AT the last meeting of the Zoological Society of London a motion was passed to the effect that the testimonials of Mr. W. L. Slater, appointed by the council secretary *ad interim*, and those of Dr. Chalmers-Mitchell, the candidate for whom a minority of the council voted, should be printed and distributed to the fellows.

AT the annual meeting of the British Institution of Mechanical Engineers on February 20, Mr. W. H. Maw resigned the chair to the newly elected president, Mr. J. Hartley Wicksteed. 520 new members have joined the institution during the year, and the membership is now nearly four thousand.

THE Cambridge Philosophical Society on February 2 passed a resolution in memory of the late Sir George Gabriel Stokes, and adjourned as a mark of respect.

THE British Virchow Memorial Committee has received £225 from ninety-seven subscribers.

A MEMORIAL tablet has been placed in the Anatomical Institute at Heidelberg to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the birth of the anatomist, Friedrich Arnold.

THE death is announced at Goerz, in Austria, of Ritter Karl von Scherzer, who took a leading part as scientific expert in the voyage of exploration around the world of the Austrian frigate *Novara* in the years 1857-1859.

MR. FRANCIS CRANMER PENROSE, F.R.S., known for his work in astronomy, archeology and architecture, died on February 15 at the age of eighty-five years.

THE death is also announced of M. Reboul, dean and honorary professor of chemistry at Marseilles.

THE Carnegie Institution has granted the sum of \$4,000 to the Lick Observatory for the present year, for the employment of assistants and computers. The director invites applications for these positions from well-equipped persons, especially from those who

are looking forward to an astronomical career.

THE College of Physicians of Philadelphia has secured pledges of \$50,000 which makes available the \$50,000 offered by Mr. Carnegie for a library building. The question has now arisen whether it would be better to enlarge the present building or to erect a new building on a different site.

As we have already stated the Congress of American Physicians and Surgeons will hold its sixth triennial session at Washington on May 12, 13 and 14. Sixteen national societies devoted to the medical sciences, including the American Physiological Society, the Association of American Anatomists and the American Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists, join in the congress. The president is Dr. William W. Keen, of Philadelphia, who will deliver an address on the evening of May 12. The general sessions of the congress will be held on the afternoon of May 12 and 13.

THE Boston *Transcript* says a plan has been definitely approved for the holding of an International Congress of Arts and Sciences at the St. Louis Exposition. The congress is to convene on Monday, September 19, 1904, and continue until Friday, September 30. The congress will have before it the definite task of bringing out the unity of human knowledge, with a view to correlating the scattered theoretical and practical scientific work of our time. The addresses are to be prepared by the greatest authorities in each branch of knowledge. In each of the various subdivisions two papers will be presented—one on the history of that particular department of knowledge during the past one hundred years, and the other on the problems that now present themselves for solution in that field. It is planned to publish the proceedings, which, it is hoped, will be a permanent contribution to the cause of scholarship. An executive committee of representative scholars, Professors Simon Newcomb, of Washington, Hugo Münsterberg, of Harvard University, and Albion W. Small, of the University of Chicago, has been intrusted with the task of elaborating the details of this plan. It is expected that the three members of this committee will

spend several months in Europe in the near future, conferring with the leading European scholars with a view to interesting them in the plan and securing their full cooperation.

A COMMITTEE has been organized for the International Botanical Congress which will meet in Vienna from June 12 to 18 in 1905. The honorary presidents are Professor Edouard Suess, president of the Imperial Academy of Sciences and the Austrian ministers of public instruction and of agriculture. The presidents, elected at the Paris congress of 1900, are Professors de Wettstein and Wiesner, of the University of Vienna. Correspondence in regard to the congress should be addressed to the secretary, Dr. A. Zahlbruckner, Berg-ring 7, Vienna.

THE National Dairy Association of Belgium has decided to hold an international congress at Brussels during the month of September, 1903, immediately after the eleventh Congress of Hygiene and Demography.

THE Indiana legislature has passed a bill which has been signed by the governor, the effect of which is to set aside under the control of Indiana University a tract of land of over 200 acres for an experimental farm. The land is covered by primitive forest and lies at the edge of the great cave region of the Ohio valley in which Wyandotte and Mammoth caves are situated. On this land are the only entrances to an extensive underground 'well' or brook which pours out its water into a narrow valley also on this farm. A large room 40 x 230 feet, easily accessible, is within 100 feet of the exit of the river. The farm is said to be ideally adapted for experimental work with cave animals. The land belonged to an alien without naturalized heirs, and on his death escheated to the state of Indiana. His heirs brought suit to recover it and the lower court confirmed the title to the state; an appeal is now pending in the supreme court.

THE University of California has leased for two years two square miles in Shasta county, California, where Professor John C. Merriam last summer secured valuable collections of fossils.

THE Sharon Biological Observatory, a sum-

mer school for teachers at Sharon, Mass., will experiment in forestry on a tract of 300 acres of woodland, which it purposes making into a model forest. Application has been made to the Bureau of Forestry for a working plan. The director of the school, Dr. Geo. W. Field, is an instructor in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

BARNARD COLLEGE, Columbia University, has received from an anonymous donor about \$1,000,000 to purchase the three blocks of land adjoining the college on the south.

THE Indiana legislature has passed bills increasing the tax levy for the higher educational institutions. The income of Indiana University will thereby be increased by about \$45,000 annually with a proportionately larger increment from the increase in the value of taxable property.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY will receive ultimately \$10,000 for the establishment of a scholarship and \$5,000 for the Semitic Museum by the will of Jacob A. Hecht.

THE Carnegie Trust of the Scottish universities has made public an announcement in regard to scholarships, fellowships and grants. The value of the scholarships is £100 and of the fellowships £150, the former being given to afford an opportunity in training for research and the latter to those who are competent to undertake independent research. The number to be awarded is not yet determined, depending on the demand. The grants are to be made only to teachers in Scotland or graduates of Scottish universities resident in Scotland. The recipients of grants may publish their work where they see fit, and instruments of permanent value purchased by means of the grant are to be placed at the disposal of the institution in which the research has been conducted.

THE Privy Council has recommended the creation of a University of Liverpool and a University of Manchester, and it is expected that the university colleges of Leeds and Sheffield will be united in a university for Yorkshire.

It was announced to the court of governors of the University of South Wales in Monmouthshire on February 19 that the council had recommended that compulsory Latin for the matriculation should not be required of students in applied science.

THE Association of Public School Science Masters sent a delegation to Oxford University on October 14 to urge that the examination for entrance scholarships in science at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge be made more uniform. They also recommended the abolition of compulsory Greek.

THE government of Nicaragua will send fifteen students annually to colleges of agriculture in the southern states.

PROFESSOR E. F. NICHOLS, of Dartmouth College, has been elected to a chair of physics in Columbia University. At the same university Mr. Charles A. Strong has been promoted to a professorship of psychology and Dr. Livingston Farrand, adjunct professor of psychology, has been made professor of anthropology.

AT Barnard College, Columbia University, Dr. H. M. Richards has been promoted to an adjunct professorship of botany, and Miss Margaret E. Maltby to an adjunct professorship of botany.

DR. FREDERICK DEFOREST HEALD, now professor of biology in Parsons College, Iowa, has been elected to the position of adjunct professor of plant physiology and general bacteriology in the University of Nebraska. He will assume office during the summer, and will take part in the work of the university summer session, having charge of the classes in botany.

MISS MARGARET F. WASHBURN, assistant professor of psychology and dean of women in the University of Cincinnati, has been appointed associate professor of philosophy in charge of psychology in Vassar College.

DR. EUGEN OBERHUMMER, associate professor of geography at Munich, has been called to the chair of geography at Vienna, and Dr. Robert Singer has been made associate professor of geography at the same university.