

*OBSERVATORY AND PHYSICAL LABORATORY AT WASHBURN COLLEGE.*

WASHBURN COLLEGE OBSERVATORY, Topeka, Kansas, was dedicated September 18. The address was delivered by Professor C. L. Doolittle of the Flower Observatory. The equipment now comprises the 11½-in. 'Grand Prix' refractor exhibited by Warner and Swasey at the Paris Exhibition, a five-inch photographic doublet, 7-centimeter combined transit and zenith telescope, sextant, mean time break circuit chronometer and a standard chronograph. There will be added at once a mean time and a sidereal clock, a position micrometer, a computing machine and a working library of star charts and catalogues, tables, standard works of reference and observatory publications. Provision is also made for a meridian circle and spectroscopic outfit. The dome is a 26-foot, copper covered, by Warner and Swasey. There is a dark room, a clock and reception room, an apparatus room, library and computing room, and recitation room. Adjacent to the observatory are the new physical laboratories and mathematical rooms. On the ground floor are the heat and electrical laboratories and shop; on the main floor the lecture-room, apparatus room, offices, general laboratory, light and spectroscopy room and a room for special or advanced work. Both the observatory and the laboratories are the gift of an eastern man who has not allowed his name to be announced in connection with the gift.

*THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.*

THE attendance at the Southport meeting of the British Association was 1,754, consisting of 250 old life members, 21 new life members, 319 old annual subscribers, 90 new annual subscribers, 688 associates, 365 ladies, and 21 foreign members. This is slightly larger than the attendance at the Belfast meeting last year and is not far from the average of recent meetings, but falls short of the attendance of the Southport meeting of 1883 by nearly 1000. The International Meteorological Committee sat during the meeting of the British Association,

the members being received by the Mayor of the city, previous to their session. The receipts of the Association last year were £4,117, and the expenditure £3,468, a balance being brought forward from last year of £1,565. The invested funds of the Association amount to £10,101. £2,465 was subscribed locally at the Southport meeting. The list of grants, as reported in the English journals, is as follows:

*Mathematics and Physics.*

Lord Rayleigh, 'Electrical Standards,' Unexpended balance.

Professor J. W. Judd, 'Seismological Observations,' £40.

Dr. W. N. Shaw, 'Upper Atmosphere Investigations,' £50 and unexpended balance.

Sir W. H. Preece, 'Magnetic Observations,' £60.

*Chemistry.*

Sir H. Roscoe, 'Wave-length Tables of Spectra,' £10.

Professor E. Divers, 'Study of Hydroaromatics,' £25.

*Geology.*

Mr. J. E. Marr, 'Erratic Blocks,' £10 and balance in hand.

Dr. R. F. Scharff, 'To Explore Irish Caves,' balance in hand.

Professor W. W. Watts, 'Movements of Underground Waters,' balance in hand.

Mr. J. E. Marr, 'Life Zones in Carboniferous Rocks,' £35.

Professor W. A. Herdman, 'Fauna and Flora of the Trias,' £10.

Mr. G. W. Lamplugh, 'To Investigate Fossiliferous Drifts,' £50.

*Zoology.*

Professor S. J. Hickson, 'Zoological Table at Naples,' £100.

Dr. H. Woodward, 'Index Animalium,' £60.

Professor W. F. R. Weldon, 'Investigations in Development in the Frog,' £15.

Professor S. J. Hickson, 'Researches on the Higher Crustacea,' £15.

*Economic Science and Statistics.*

Dr. E. Cannan, 'British and Foreign Statistics of International Trade,' £25.

*Mechanical Science.*

Sir J. J. Thornycroft, 'Resistance of Road Vehicles to Traction,' £90.