

Newnham Colleges, and the Ladies' Training College, have also agreed to extend hospitality and lodging accommodation to British and foreign visitors.

A considerable number of favorable replies have been received in answer to invitations issued to American and foreign men of science; it is expected that at least 100 visitors from abroad will be present.

The master and fellows of Trinity College have granted the use of the college for a *conversazione* and reception to be held on Thursday, August 18. The Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire and the Mayor of Cambridge will entertain the members and associates at a garden-party in the Botanic Garden on Monday, August 22. The High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire has also expressed his intention of giving a garden-party during the meeting. On Friday, August 19, a garden-party will be given by the principal of Girton College, and on Tuesday afternoon, August 23, members of the association will be entertained at Newnham College.

It is hoped that a *table d'hôte* lunch will be served on week-days in certain college halls. Light refreshments will be served each day (including Sunday) in the Masonic Hall, adjoining the museums and close to the reception room, from 12 to 8 P.M. It has also been arranged to have an open-air café and beer-garden on ground adjoining the museums, which will be open on week-days from 11 to 6.

The committee has provisionally arranged eleven excursions for Saturday, August 20. These include Audley End and Saffron Walden, Brandon and Diddington Hall (flint-knapping industry and Lord Amherst's collection of Egyptian antiquities), Cromer (geological), the Dykes of Cambridgeshire; Ely, Hatfield and St. Albans, Lincoln, Lynn, Castle Rising and Sandringham, Norwich, Wicken Fen, Wisbech and Woad Works.

On Thursday afternoon, August 18, the registry of the university, Mr. J. Willis Clark, will deliver a lecture on 'The Origin and Growth of the University.' The evening lecture on Friday, August 19, will be on 'Ripple-marks and Sand-dunes,' by Professor George Darwin, and on Monday, August 22,

the second evening lecture will be delivered by Professor H. F. Osborn, of New York, who will give an account of 'Recent Explorations and Researches on Extinct Mammalia.' On Saturday, August 20, Dr. J. E. Marr will lecture to the operative classes on 'The Forms of Mountains.'

A classified list of lodgings and hotel accommodation is now being prepared for the use of intending visitors. Information in regard to lodgings may be obtained from Mr. A. Hutchinson, Pembroke College. General inquiries should be addressed to the local secretaries, British Association, or to Mr. A. C. Seward, Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. JOHN M. CLARKE, paleontologist of the state of New York, has been appointed by the regents of the University of the state of New York to succeed Dr. Frederick J. H. Merrill as geologist and director of the State Museum.

DR. F. S. EARLE, assistant curator of the New York Botanical Garden, has resigned to accept the office of director of the new agricultural station in Cuba. The station will occupy a farm and buildings at Santiago de la Vegas, about twelve miles from Havana. The sum of \$75,000 has been appropriated for the establishment and maintenance of the station for the first year.

DR. HERBERT HAVILAND FIELD, director of the Concilium Bibliographicum, has been elected an honorary member of the Leipzig Society of Naturalists.

SIR GUILFORD L. MOLESWORTH has been elected president of the British Institution of Civil Engineers.

PROFESSOR V. L. KELLOGG, head of the department of entomology of Stanford University, will spend the greater part of next year in Germany, Italy and England.

DR. M. P. RAVENEL and Dr. Leonard Pearson, of the University of Pennsylvania, are about to go to Italy to undertake researches on tuberculosis in the laboratory of Professor Maragliano, at Genoa.

DR. R. HOERNES, professor of geology in the University of Graz, has been sent by the

Vienna Academy of Sciences to Macedonia to study the earthquake of April 4.

MR. PERCY LONGMUIR, of University College, Sheffield, has been appointed junior assistant in the metallurgical department of the British National Physical Laboratory.

As we have already noted, General Bassot has been appointed director of the observatory at Nice in the room of the late M. Perrotin. M. Simonin has been appointed sub-director of the observatory.

PROFESSOR H. C. PARKER, of Columbia University, lectured before the Geographical Society of Philadelphia on May 4, his subject being 'Mountaineering in the American Alps.' The Elisha Kent Kane medal of the society, awarded to Captain Robert F. Scott, R.N., commander of the *Antarctic* in its recent expedition to the polar regions, was accepted on his behalf by Wilfred Powell, Esq., British consul at Philadelphia.

PROFESSOR W. S. FRANKLIN, of Lehigh University, lectured before the Electric Club of Pittsburg on the 'Electron Theory' on May 2.

PROFESSOR FRANCIS E. LLOYD, of Teachers College, Columbia University, lectured before the American Philosophical Society, on May 6, on 'The Vegetation of the Island of Dominica.' Professor Lloyd spent the summer of 1903 in a botanical exploration of the island.

DR. J. A. EWING, director of naval education, formerly professor of mechanism and applied mechanics in the University of Cambridge, has been appointed Rede lecturer for the present year.

THE certificate of incorporation has been filed of the Walter Reed Memorial Association for the purpose of securing funds to erect a monument in Washington City to the memory of the late Walter Reed, major and surgeon U. S. Army. Dr. Daniel C. Gilman is president, and General George M. Sternberg, vice-president of the association.

THE trustees of the British National Portrait Gallery have received by bequest from the late Mr. Herbert Spencer, a portrait of himself, painted by J. B. Burgess, R.A., and

a marble bust of himself by Sir J. E. Boehm, R.A. The trustees have purchased a portrait of Sir Isaac Newton, painted as a young man and attributed to Robert Walker.

A COMMITTEE has been formed with the object of collecting subscriptions for the erection of a memorial to James Watt in Greenock, the place of his birth. The site of the house in which Watt was born is the property of the corporation of Greenock, and is placed at the disposal of the committee. The form of memorial will depend on the amount of money collected.

PROFESSOR MAXWELL SOMERVILLE, who occupied the chair of glyptology at the University of Pennsylvania and was a well-known authority on gems, has died at Paris, at the age of seventy-five years.

M. EMILE DUCLAUX, professor of physics and meteorology in the Agricultural Institute at Paris and member of the Academy of Sciences, has died at the age of sixty-four years.

WE regret also to record the death of Professor Moritz Staub, of Buda Pesth, secretary of the Hungarian Geological Society.

THE Civil Service Commission announces an examination on June 4, to secure eligibles to fill a vacancy in the position of chemist in the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture in connection with the inspection of foreign food products, at a salary of \$2,000 per annum, and vacancies in the position of chemist of like character, in equal or lower grades, as they may occur in that department.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has decided that the new buildings of the Department of Agriculture shall be built facing the park way that the park commission has recommended to extend through the Mall.

MR. CHARLES H. STERNBERG, of Lawrence, Kans., is prepared to send on approval collections of the reptiles and fishes of the chalk of Kansas.

A MASSACHUSETTS Zoological Society was incorporated last week with a view to establishing a Zoological Park in Boston. The park will be situated in the Stony Brook Reservation, and it is hoped that from \$100,000 to

\$200,000 will be collected and that work will be begun a year hence. The incorporators are Dr. Charles Sedgwick Minot, president; John E. Thayer and Dr. Henry P. Bowditch, vice-presidents; Dr. Edward G. Gardiner, secretary; Rev. James Eells, treasurer; Outram Bangs, Alexander Pope, William Lyman Underwood and the president and secretary, executive committee; Robert A. Boit, William F. Beal, Rev. Samuel A. Eliot, Hon. John D. Long, Robert M. Burnett, Samuel Hooper Hooper, Professor E. L. Mark, Dr. Samuel J. Mixer, Professor Edward S. Morse, Frederick Law Olmsted, Hon. Herbert Parker, John C. Phillips, Dr. Morton Prince and Professor William T. Sedgwick.

It is stated in *Nature* that a provisional program of the meeting of the International Association of Academies, to be held in London, has been sent to the delegates. On Tuesday, May 24, the commission inquiring into the anatomy of the brain will probably meet at Burlington House in the morning. In the evening the delegates will be entertained by the Royal Society at a banquet at the Whitehall Rooms. Wednesday, May 25, and the morning of the following day will be devoted to the business of the assembly. The king has expressed his wish, if his engagements will permit, to receive the delegates, and it is hoped that arrangements may be made for this event in the afternoon of May 26. On Friday evening, May 27, the delegates are invited to a reception by the University of London; and on the afternoon of May 28 it is proposed to pay visits to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. On Monday, May 30, the Lord Mayor of London will entertain the delegates at a banquet at the Mansion House.

At Thurlow-park, Norwood, on March 17, Sir Hiram Maxim gave, as we learn from the *London Times*, a demonstration of his new 'Captive Flying Machine.' To a central vertical shaft, over 60 feet high, are attached ten long radial arms, supported by steel wire ropes, and from the ends of these arms are slung cars, each carrying six or eight passengers, and made in the shape of fish or any other form that fancy may dictate. Each is

provided with an aeroplane, and by the varying of an angle, and consequently of the lifting power, of this they can, when the peripheral speed is high enough, be made to move up and down and perform complicated evolutions in the air. The speed was not great enough to bring the aeroplanes into action; exigencies of space made it necessary for the cars to be hung about forty feet from the ground, and the diameter of the circular path they followed was so small that sufficient speed to affect the aeroplanes would have been accompanied by an undue development of centrifugal force, owing to increased speed of rotation. The machine, however, is destined for Earl's-court Exhibition, where it will be erected in the middle of the lake; and there the cars will be hung much lower, and with a large circle of travel the peripheral speed will be high enough to bring the aeroplanes into play with a very moderate number of revolutions a minute. The central shaft is driven by a gas-engine, which can turn it at such a rate that the peripheral speed of the cars becomes about sixty-five miles an hour, and they are forced out at an angle of nearly 80 degrees to the vertical; but at Earl's-court the highest possible speed will be 35 miles an hour. A still larger machine is being built for the Crystal Palace, and as the space there is not limited the circle round which the cars travel will be so large that their speed will be high with only four revolutions a minute. In building these machines Sir Hiram Maxim's main object is, not to provide the frequenters of places of amusement with a new sensation, but to defray the cost of serious experiments in aeronautics. He feels certain that the time has now come when it is practicable to make a flying machine that can not fail to be of enormous value to the country as a military engine, and by the aid of the attractions of these captive flying machines at Earl's-court and the Crystal Palace he hopes to obtain from the public enough money to carry his experiments to a successful issue.

IN order to promote uniform food standards and a uniform and just government control for the manufacture and sale of foods, there will be held at the St. Louis Exposition an International Pure Food Congress during the

week of September 26 to October 1, 1904. It is proposed to make this a congress of officials in charge of the enforcement of laws that control the purity of food products, of chemists conducting investigations of food products, of manufacturers and dealers in foods, and of all persons engaged in the preservation and distribution of food products. The topics for discussion will be: (1) Adulteration, misbranding and fraud in the sale of food and drink products. (2) The practical problems connected with the preservation, packing and distributing of the different food and drink products. (3) The use of antiseptics and coloring matters in foods and their effect upon the health. (4) Uniform standards for the quality and strength of dairy, food and drink products. (5) Uniform state, national and international laws to control the adulteration of foods, and fraud in the sale of foods, and the best methods for enforcing these laws. (6) Methods of analysis for the detection of food adulterants. (7) To expose such specific adulterations and frauds as may be brought to the attention of the congress, and to recommend methods for suppressing and controlling them. All inquiries concerning the congress should be addressed to R. M. Allen, Secretary, International Pure Food Congress, Lexington, Kentucky.

A SOUTH AFRICAN correspondent writes as follows to the *Observatory*: "I have never come across any mention in an astronomical periodical of Carlyle's few remarks on astronomers, or of the fact that he was once a candidate for the directorship of the Edinburgh Observatory. It seems that this position was in the gift of Jeffrey of *Edinburgh Review* fame, and Jeffrey and Carlyle were intimate friends. Carlyle asked for the position, and was gruffly refused it by nearly the return post. Jeffrey appointed his secretary, whom Carlyle calls 'his taciturn friend with the bleary eyes.' Who this was the writer knows not. Carlyle is good enough to say that Jeffrey's nominee did 'well enough.' Carlyle met Airy once—'a hardy little figure, of edacious energetic physiognomy, eyes hard, strong, not fine.' He met Legendre, whose Geometry

he had translated in Edinburgh. He was also touched by the hem of Laplace's garment, thus:—"At a meeting of the *Institut* I saw and well remember the figure of Trismegistus Laplace; the skirt of his long blue-silk dressing gown (such his costume, unique in the place, his age and fame being also unique) even touched me as he passed on the session's rising. He was tall, thin, clean, serene, his face, perfectly smooth as a healthy man of fifty's, bespoke intelligence keen and ardent, rather than deep or great. In the eyes was a dreamy smile, with something of pathos in it, and perhaps something of contempt."

THE following circular letter has been sent to English-speaking scholars by the rector of the University of Turin and the chief librarian of the National Library:

The commotion raised by the disaster of the National library of Turin, and the deep expressions of sorrow presented to it by the most eminent scientific bodies of every civil state, encourage us to address ourselves to the most illustrious of their members; whose studies are in accordance with the sections of the library that have been destroyed and of which sections it is our moral duty to endeavor the reconstruction in their most minute details.

Now since you are a worthy representative of this eminent scientific body and the studies you profess and cherish belong just to the sections destroyed, so we dare hope that in accordance with the joint solidarity which bounds together all the scholars of the world, you will favor and honor our library with the gift of your most esteemed books, which would be even more valued if adorned with an autographic dedication which would remind the studious of your generous present in a moment so painful for the studies.

This request that we have the honor to forward to you is entirely our personal and does not belong to the institution we represent, happy as we are of having an opportunity of so giving public homage to your high scientific attainments in conferring a benefit to the studies.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has instructed its executive committee to confer with the Harvard University authorities on the subject of closer relations between the two institutions.