

JAMES WILSON—From the presidency of Iowa Agricultural College you were called to the cabinet by William McKinley. By President Roosevelt you were retained as the head of the United States Department of Agriculture. Under your solicitous care scientific work has risen to first place in the greatest bureau of agricultural research in the world. Upon you, for the encouragement and fostering of agricultural education and research, and thus helping to dignify the great fundamental vocation of agriculture, this university confers the degree of doctor of laws.

ROBERT SIMPSON WOODWARD—As a mathematician you have departed from the beaten paths and have applied your art with unusual power to new fields in the border-land between astronomy, geodesy and geology. In recognition of your important contributions to knowledge in this department of learning, the university confers upon you its honorary degree of doctor of laws and welcomes you to its fellowship.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. W. H. MAXWELL, superintendent of schools in New York City, has been elected president of the National Educational Association.

THE honor of knighthood has been conferred on Professor James Dewar by King Edward.

PROFESSOR ROBERT KOCH has been elected a member of the Berlin Academy of Sciences, filling the vacancy caused by the death of Professor Virchow.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY proposes to confer the degree of D.Sc., *honoris causa*, upon the following persons, on the occasion of the visit of the British Medical Association: Thomas Clifford Allbutt, M.D., F.R.S., regius professor of physics at Cambridge; Andrew Clark, F.R.C.S., vice-president and chairman of the council of the British Medical Association; Thomas Dryslwyn Griffiths, M.D., president of the British Medical Association; Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.S., late president of the Royal College of Surgeons; Sir William Macewen, M.D., F.R.S., regius professor

of surgery in the University of Glasgow; Sir Patrick Manson, K.C.M.G., M.D., F.R.S.; Sir John William Moore, M.D., late president of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland; William Osler, M.D., F.R.S., professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore; Thomas George Roddick, M.D., M.P. (Canada), late president of the British Medical Association.

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY has conferred its honorary doctorate of science on Mr. Philip Watts, Sir James Dewar, Mr. Jethro J. Harris Teall and Dr. William Henry Thompson.

MR. WILLIAM H. NICHOLS, president of the General Chemical Company and of the Nichols Chemical Company, has received the doctorate of laws from Lafayette College. Dr. Nichols has also been nominated by the council of the Society of Chemical Industry, to succeed Professor Ramsay as president.

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, Sir Henry Roscoe and Professor Landolt have been elected honorary members of the German Bunsen Society.

SIR FRANCIS SHARP POWELL has been elected president of the Royal Statistical Society.

THE General Assembly of the State of Maryland voted, at its recent session, a gold medal to Colonel Charles Chaillé-Long, in recognition of his contribution to the solution of the Nile problem by the discovery of Lake Ibrahim in 1874 and his services to humanity rendered at the time of the bombardment of Alexandria in 1882.

THE Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, will confer the Elliott-Cresson medal on Dr. Hans Goldschmidt in Essen-Ruhr, Germany, in recognition of his distinguished work in aluminothermics.

WE learn from *Nature* that the French Society of Civil Engineers has this year awarded its prizes as follows: the annual prize to M. J. Bernard for his work on the installation in the Red Sea of three lighthouses in circumstances of especial difficulty. The Michel Alcan prize was awarded to M. L. Guillet for his researches on the composition of steel, and the F. Coignet prize went to M. V. Picou for his work on the regulation of dynamos. A prize was awarded to Professor

E. Hospitalier for his works on the study of phenomena which by their rapidity and frequency baffle ordinary methods of analysis.

MR. H. C. RUSSELL, government astronomer of New South Wales, will retire at the end of the present year, after a service of forty-six years.

DR. A. P. LUFF has resigned his appointment as scientific analyst to the Home Office of the British government. Dr. W. H. Wilcox has been recommended by the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, as his successor.

DR. JOHN BELL HATCHER, curator of vertebrate zoology at the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, died on July 4 from typhoid fever, at the age of forty-six years.

WE regret to record the death of M. Anatole de Barthélemy, the eminent French archeologist, at the age of eighty-three years; of Dr. W. Weiss, professor of mathematics at the German Technological Institute of Prague, on June 18, at the age of forty-five years; of Dr. V. Merz, formerly professor of chemistry at Zurich; of Dr. Gilles de la Tourette, the well-known French alienist; of Mr. Edward Trimmer, for thirty-six years secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons, England; and of Lieutenant-General Dubrovin, who was for a long time secretary of the Imperial Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg.

THE *Geographical Magazine* states that the Russian Geographical Society, with the aid of money subscribed by a private person, is organizing a new expedition for the exploration of the northern coasts of Siberia, between the Yenisei and the Lena. The head of the expedition will be M. Tolmacheff, already known for his journeys and explorations in Russian Asia.

IN January, 1905, the Bombay branch of the Royal Asiatic Society proposes to celebrate the centenary of its foundation by a public gathering, at which papers will be read and an exhibition of the possessions of the society held.

THE International Astronomical Congress will meet at Lund, Sweden, beginning on September 5.

THE subject of the essays for the Howard medal of the Royal Statistical Society for 1905 will be 'A Critical Inquiry into the Comparative Prevalence of Lunacy and other Mental Defects in the United Kingdom during the last 50 years.'

A *conversazione* of the Institution of Electrical Engineers was held on June 28 in the Natural History Museum, London. The guests, who numbered about 1,500, were received by Mr. R. K. Gray, president, and Mr. Alexander Siemens, president-elect.

A CABLEGRAM to the daily papers from London, dated July 8, says that the annual report of the Cancer Research Fund was submitted at the third annual meeting. It stated that the investigations of the year had resulted in discoveries having an important bearing on several crucial problems in connection with the disease, knowledge of which had been greatly increased. Briefly and untechnically stated the new facts are that cancer pervades the whole civilized and uncivilized world. Hence it is not, as was supposed, a product of civilization. It affects animals as well as human beings, and also fishes. It attacks all subjects at relatively the same age. It is not infectious and is not transmissible from one species to another. The cancer cell can reacquire powers of self-propagation. Cancer is not attributable to a parasite. It is not increasing. Experiments have not shown that radium exercises a curative effect.

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#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

By the death of Mrs. Susan W. Clark, Clark University will receive \$400,000, left in trust for her use, and a further sum of \$50,000 to \$75,000 from her estate.

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER has given Denison Baptist University, Newark, Ohio, \$100,000.

IT is reported that the Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University, will have a large en-