

Admiralty, the Royal and Royal Geographical Societies and other public bodies. On the following day the Royal Geographical Society will give a dinner to the officers and scientific staff. According to present arrangements, officers and men will then be allowed to rest in peace, so far as public functions of an official character are concerned, until the beginning of November, when it is hoped that Commander Scott will open the new session of the Royal Geographical Society with a summary account of the whole expedition. This will be a special meeting, and possibly will be held in the Albert-hall.

#### THE CROCKER ECLIPSE EXPEDITION OF THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

MR. WILLIAM H. CROCKER has offered to meet the expenses of observations on the total solar eclipse of August 30, 1905. Three expeditions will be sent out from the Lick Observatory to Labrador, Spain and Egypt. The provisional program for the three stations is as follows:

*Labrador:* A photographic search for intramercorial planets in a region of the sky  $8\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  wide, extending in the direction of the solar equator from  $4^{\circ}$  below the sun to  $15^{\circ}$  above it. The photography of the corona by means of a camera of five inches aperture and forty feet focus, of the form first used by Professor Schaeberle at the eclipse of 1893.

*Spain:* A photographic intramercorial search covering a region  $9\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$  wide, extending in the direction of the solar equator from  $14^{\circ}$  below to  $14^{\circ}$  above the sun. The photography of the solar corona with a camera of five inches aperture and forty feet focus. A study of the polarized light in the corona. The use of spectrographs provided with moving plate-holders to obtain a continuous record of changes in the spectrum of the sun's edge at the time of second and third contacts; of spectrographs for determining the wave-length of the green coronal bright line, and, if possible, the wave-lengths of the bright and dark lines in the isolated spectrum of the sun's edge, as nearly as possible at the time when the dark lines give way to bright ones, and

*vice versa*; and of a spectrograph for recording the general spectrum of the corona.

*Egypt:* A photographic intramercorial search  $8\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ , extending in the direction of the solar equator from  $4^{\circ}$  below to  $15^{\circ}$  above the sun. The photography of the solar corona with a camera of five inches aperture and forty feet focus. The photography of the general spectrum of the corona.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. G. K. GILBERT, of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been elected a foreign member of the Accademia dei Lincei, Rome.

COMMANDER R. E. PEARY was presented with the gold medal of the French Geographical Society by its president, M. Cordier, at the banquet of the International Geographical Congress given in New York on September 14. In accepting the medal Commander Peary announced his plans for Arctic exploration next year.

DR. PHILIPP LENARD, professor of physics at Kiel, and Dr. Adolf de Koenen, professor of geology at Göttingen, have been elected foreign members of the Belgian Academy of Sciences.

CAPTAIN R. S. SCOTT, of the *Discovery*, has been promoted to the rank of a captain in the Royal Navy.

THE council of the British Institution of Civil Engineers has, in addition to the medals and prizes given for communications discussed at the meetings of the institution in the last session, made the following awards in respect of other papers dealt with in 1903-1904: Telford premiums to Arthur Hill, C.I.E. (Bombay), F. A. Hurley (Cairo), E. M. De Burgh (Greystones), H. H. Dare, M.E. (Sydney, N. S. W.), William Marriott (Melton Constable), T. G. Gribble (London), W. H. Haigh (Cardiff). For students' papers the awards are: A Miller scholarship, tenable for three years, and the James Forrest medal to C. W. L. Alexander, B.E. (Birmingham); Miller prizes to J. M. Clark, M.A., B.Sc. (Glasgow), L. G. Crawford (Barrow-in-Furness), W. H. Dickenson, B.Sc. (Jesmond-on-Tyne), William Lawson (Newcastle-on-Tyne), C. G. Du Cane, B.A. (Middlesbrough), C.