

well as of the great importance and difficulty of the problem that had been put into his hands, the Department of Agriculture has sustained a very heavy loss in his death. His fellow workers feel that they have lost a more than usually upright and conscientious associate and a true-hearted, unselfish friend.

#### GEORGE HOMANS ELDRIDGE.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. Geo. H. Eldridge, geologist of the Geological Survey, which occurred on June 29. The Washington *Evening Star* says of Mr. Eldridge: "Born in Yarmouth, Mass., on Christmas day, 1854, he gained his early education at the Boston Latin School, where he took high rank in scholarship and in military affairs. Entering Harvard College with the class of '76, he devoted special attention to geological studies, and was taken on the 'varsity glee club. After graduation he taught until selected by Raphael Pumpelly as special expert on coal and base metals for the tenth census. At the conclusion of that investigation he was placed in charge of responsible work as geologist of the northern transcontinental survey and rendered valuable service in determining the extent and value of the coals of the Rocky Mountain region. In 1884 he entered the United States Geological Survey. For several years thereafter he was engaged in field work in several western states and Florida. In 1898 he was in charge of geological investigations in Alaska, and in recent years has been occupied almost entirely in making extended studies of special mineral deposits. Mr. Eldridge won an international reputation as an expert on asphalt, was an authority on phosphate and coal, and when his last sickness overtook him was engaged in preparing an exhaustive report on the oil of California. He has contributed valuable knowledge to the science of geology and has published 'Report on Montana Coal Fields,' 'Industries of the Base Metals,' an important portion of a monograph on 'Geology of the Denver Basin of Colorado,' 'Report on Asphalt and Bituminous Rock Products of the United States,' and numerous papers on various mineral deposits in this

country and Alaska. He was a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, the Geological Society of America and the Geological, the Anthropological and the Harvard Societies of Washington.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. E. RAY LANKESTER, director of the British Museum of Natural History, has been elected president of the British Association for the meeting to be held next year at York.

THE REV. DR. NATHAN C. SCHAEFFER, Pennsylvania state superintendent of public instruction, has been elected president of the National Educational Association.

OBERLIN COLLEGE has conferred the degree of D.Sc. on the Rev. John C. Gulick, known for his work on the shells of the Hawaiian Islands and his theories regarding segregation and isolation as factors in organic evolution.

AMHERST COLLEGE has conferred its LL.D. on President Carroll D. Wright, of Clark College, and its D.Sc. on Mr. Henry Noel Potter, an electrical engineer of New York City, and on Dr. J. F. McGregory, professor of chemistry at Colgate University.

HOBART COLLEGE has conferred the degree of doctor of science on Dr. James M. Coit, teacher of natural science in St. Paul's school.

THE UNIVERSITY of Dublin has conferred its doctorate of science on Professor E. A. Schäfer, professor of physiology at Edinburgh University, and on Professor Sydney Young, professor of chemistry, at University College, Dublin.

MR. T. A. RICKARD has resigned the editorship of the *Engineering and Mining Journal*, his resignation having taken effect on June 30.

DR. HARVEY W. WILEY, chief of the Bureau of Chemistry, of the Department of Agriculture, has gone to Europe under instructions from Secretary Wilson to make an exhaustive investigation of methods of preparing and preserving food products for shipment to America.

THE United States cruiser *Minneapolis*, conveying Rear Admiral Colby M. Chester, superintendent of the United States Naval Observatory, and the other members of the

government expedition which will observe the eclipse of the sun at Bona, Algeria, and Valencia, Spain, on August 29, has sailed for Spain. The auxiliary cruiser *Dixie* and the collier *Cæsar*, which have on board the instruments and materials for the observation stations, are also on their way to the Mediterranean.

It appears from the daily papers that Professor Robert Koch, who is at present in German East Africa, has made important discoveries in regard to the transmission of tropical diseases.

M. ELIE METCHNIKOFF, vice-director of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, has been made an associate of the Belgian Academy of Sciences.

THE Guy silver medal of the Royal Statistical Society has been awarded to Mr. R. Henry Rew for his work on the production and consumption of meat and milk.

DR. ALBERT ORTH, professor of agriculture in the Berlin School of Agriculture, celebrated, on June 15, his seventieth birthday.

DR. E. WARBURG, president of the Reichsanstalt, has been appointed honorary professor in the University of Berlin.

DR. F. SIEGLBAUER, of Prague, has been appointed curator of the Anatomical Institute at Leipzig.

PROFESSOR J. VOLNEY LEWIS, of Rutgers College, will devote the summer to a special investigation of the petrography of the Newark (Triassic) traps of New Jersey and their associated copper ores for the State Geological Survey.

WE learn from *Nature* that the civil list pensions granted during the year ended March 31, include the following: 1904, August 8.—Mr. W. F. Denning, in consideration of his services to the science of astronomy, £150. August 8.—Miss Elizabeth Parker, in recognition of the services rendered to science as an investigator by her late father, Mr. W. Kitchen Parker, F.R.S., £100. August 8.—Lady Le Neve Foster, in consideration of the services rendered to mining science by her late husband, Sir Clement Le Neve Foster, F.R.S., and of the fact that his death was due to the

effects of poisoning by carbonic oxide gas while carrying out his official duties, £100. 1905, January 17.—Dr. J. G. Frazer, in recognition of his literary merits and of his anthropological studies, £200. March 22.—The Rev. Lorimer Fison, in recognition of the originality and importance of his researches in Australian and Fijian ethnology, £150. March 22.—Dr. W. Cramond, in consideration of his antiquarian researches, more particularly in connection with the ecclesiastical and burghal history of Scotland, £80. March 22.—Miss L. C. Watts and Miss E. S. Watts, in recognition of the services of their late father, Mr. Henry Watts, to chemistry, £75.

THE Paris Aeronautic Club will erect in Paris a statue in memory of Philippe Lebon, the discoverer of illuminating gas.

A BUST of Michel Faraday by Mr. H. C. Fehr, presented to the Borough Polytechnic Institute, London, by Mr. Passmore Edwards, was unveiled on June 28 by Professor Sylvanus P. Thompson.

THE Berlin municipality has appropriated \$20,000 to erect a statue in honor of Rudolf Virchow, which will be placed on the Karlsplatz, close to the Charity Hospital.

DR. WM. THOS. BLANDFORD, F.R.S., the well-known British geologist, died on June 23, at the age of seventy-three years. Mr. Blandford served on the Geological Survey of India from 1855 to 1882. He accompanied the Abyssinian expedition as geologist in 1868 and published on his return his 'Observations on the Geology and Zoology of Abyssinia.' He was also a member of the Persian Boundary Commission of 1872, and published a volume on the geology of eastern Persia. Dr. Blandford was a president of the Asiatic Society of Bengal from 1878 to 1879; president of the Geological Section of the British Association in 1884; president of the Geological Society of London from 1888 to 1890, and vice-president of the Royal Society from 1892 to 1893 and from 1901 to 1903. He was the recipient of the Abyssinian medal, the Royal medal of the Royal Society and the Wollaston medal of the Geological Society. He was the editor of 'Fauna of British India,' to which

he contributed one volume on mammals and two volumes on birds.

MR. JAMES MANSERGH, F.R.S., a British engineer, well-known for his work on water-supply and sewage, died on June 15.

THE government of the Argentine Republic has established a Meteorological Observatory on New Year's Island, which is expected to furnish valuable data from the South Atlantic Ocean.

WE learn from *The Athenæum* that Professor Karl Schröter and his pupil Dr. Rubel have established a biological station on the Bernina Pass. Although it is intended chiefly for the study of Alpine flora, attention will also be paid to meteorological observations, and the station is supplied with a complete equipment of meteorological and geodetic instruments. Professor Schröter's present idea is to keep the station open during the whole year, and similar stations are to be established in Puschlav and in the Upper Engadine.

WE learn from *Nature* that the Stephen Ralli memorial—a laboratory for clinical and pathological research—was opened at the Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, on June 29.

THE New York Board of Estimate has appropriated \$17,000 towards exterminating the mosquitoes on Staten Island.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE board of regents has authorized the construction of a wing of the museum of the University of Nebraska.

THE tuition fees in Sibley College and the College of Civil Engineering at Cornell University have been increased from \$125 to \$150. A matriculation fee of \$5 will be required of all students and the fees for graduation have been increased.

PROFESSOR E. J. WICKSON has been appointed acting director of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of California during the leave of absence granted to Professor E. W. Hilgard.

DR. KARL E. GÜTHE, of the U. S. Bureau of Standards, formerly assistant professor of physics in the University of Michigan, has

been appointed professor and head of the department of physics in the State University of Iowa.

DR. EDWARD BARTOW, associate professor of chemistry, at the University of Kansas, has been appointed associate professor of chemistry in the University of Illinois. He will have charge of the state water survey, and other sanitary work in the state.

PROFESSOR SAMUEL AVERY, who holds the chair of agricultural chemistry at the University of Nebraska, has been appointed professor of chemistry and director of the chemical laboratory, in succession to Professor H. H. Nicholson, who has resigned. In the same institution Mr. J. H. Powers has been appointed instructor in zoology.

THE regents of the Kansas State University have made the following appointments: P. F. Walker, of the University of Maine, to be associate professor of mechanical engineering; H. A. Rice, of Lehigh, assistant professor of civil engineering; N. J. Wheeler, of Purdue University, assistant professor of civil engineering; Dr. M. F. Sudler, of Johns Hopkins and Cornell Universities, assistant professor of anatomy.

MR. G. E. CONDRA has been promoted to an assistant professorship of geography and economic geology in the University of Nebraska.

MR. GEORGE D. HUBBARD, instructor in geology and physical geography in Cornell University, has been elected assistant professor of geology in Ohio State University. The other members of the geological department are Charles S. Prosser, professor of geology, and John A. Bownocker, professor of inorganic geology.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has nominated M. Verneuil as its first choice for the chair of ceramics, and M. Rosenstiehl for the chair of dyeing, in the National Conservatory of Arts and Measures.

DR. ERNST MEUMANN, of Zurich, has been called to the chair of philosophy at Königsberg.

DR. RITCHIE, reader in pathology at Oxford, has been made professor.