Allowing for the difference of level of 61 meters, the observations indicate a decidedly lower temperature and a much higher wind velocity on Mount Washington than are found in the free air. The hygrometers had not been tested below 40 per cent. and the comparison of humidities, while indicating a lower humidity on the mountain, is not considered trustworthy.

Unusually clear, fine weather prevailed throughout the time that could be devoted to the experiments and the summits of the mountains were seldom hidden by clouds. On two successive days (August 25 and 26) the average wind velocity on Mount Washington was less than three meters per second, and on several other days it was almost as low. The conditions for kite flying may not be more difficult near mountains than in other places, but the consequences of accidents to the kites, and the fall of the line and apparatus into the dense forests in these regions, demand that unusual precautions be taken to avoid mishaps. A small gasolene motor for quick manipulation of the line during periods of light wind is almost a necessity.

These experiments have also demonstrated the great value of a simple and compact meteorograph in obtaining data at a place like Mount Washington. The time required for changing the records of the instrument employed was about five minutes, or less, each day, the construction of the recording mechanism of the anemometer being such that this operation could be performed at any time convenient to the observer, or even omitted for a day without loss of records by superimposing. After the meteorograph was installed, on August 20, continuous records of the four elements already referred to were maintained until the close of the season on the summit. It was not practicable to record the direction of the wind on this meteorograph except by means of a device indicating only the eight principal directions; and while such approximate data are useful in studies of climate they are of small value in other meteorological researches.

If circumstances favor, this work will be continued during at least three weeks of the summer of 1906, and, it is hoped, more definite results will be obtained than those described in this preliminary study.

I am indebted to Mr. H. H. Clayton for the use of four Blue Hill box kites; to the staff of *Among the Clouds,* Messrs. Burt, Dunham, Libby and Duff, for their assistance in caring for the meteorograph on Mount Washington, without which these experiments could not easily have been made; to Mr. D. J. Flanders, of the Boston and Maine Railroad, for transportation over the Mount Washington Railway for the purpose of installing the meteorograph on the summit; to the foreman at the Rosebrook Inn, and to Mr. Anderson, of the American Museum of Natural History, for valuable assistance in the kite flights.

S. P. Fergusson.

Hyde Park, Mass.,
February 25, 1906.

QUOTATIONS.

THE CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITIES.

The amended report of the condition in which Leland Stanford, Junior, University is left by the earthquake is most comforting. But if the first statement that its buildings had all been reduced to heaps of dust had proved true the university would not have been, as the headlines had it, 'wiped out.' A university does not exist in its material part. The plant is, in fact, the least part of it. Perhaps it would have been worth the sacrifice of the beautiful Boston-planned architecture of Leland Stanford, Junior, University representing Hispano-Mexican history and the semi-tropical local color of California as vividly as the architecture of Harvard and Yale represent the associations of old New England with Cambridge and Oxford universities, if the impressive object-lesson had been conveyed to our 'splendid materialism,' that the buildings, though they may represent many millions and that in irreproachable good taste, too, do not make and can never make the university. The Leland Stanford Junior University is what it is not by grace of Leland Stanford's money, but by virtue of certain great and fearless minds, with their unwaver-

ing devotion to the highest, with their deep and comprehensive grasp of the relations of the present to the past, the local to the whole world of mankind; with their sense of duty to set the feet of the oncoming generations of Americans in paths laid out in accord with the true laws of growth as far as science can settle what the true course may be and in obedience to the highest and broadest moral and social purpose and responsibility. This direction has been maintained at Leland Stanford, Junior.

Its endowment of thirty millions, its site covering nine thousand acres overlooking San Francisco and the Pacific, thirty miles away, are superb indeed, in all senses of the word. But the animating genius is that of David Starr Jordan, a man with something very much like the physical, mental and spiritual endowment of Phillips Brooks. There would be no question raised to the statement that the building up and development of this university is due mainly to the work and the personal equation of President Jordan, who has been its only president. We had last winter, in one of the Lowell Institute lecture courses, an interesting type of the Pacific coast college professor in Dr. Henry Morse Stevens, of the University of California, with his fascinating review in twelve lectures on the growth of humanitarianism in the world since Francis of Assisi and its developments in charities and corrections. It is still fresh in mind—the powerful impression produced here in Boston by this new authority for us—the scholarship and above all the social purpose revealed in a remarkable series of papers demonstrating from history, in a spirit of broad and dauntless optimism, that the state is constantly taking upon itself to see that the world does really grow better through feeling a closer responsibility for its defectives, and that patriotism must be expanded beyond a narrow nationalism in the scientific interpretation of history. With such enlightenment flowing forth daily upon the four or five thousand students of the great university patronized by Mrs. Phœbe A. Hearst, and similar influences shed from the greatmindedness of President Jordan upon about half as many in that endowed by Mrs. Stanford, a large proportion of all of whom are young women, it is to be gathered that the 'Coast' is taking on an intellectual and social culture deeper than anything that can be toppled into ruin by mere destruction of buildings.—*The Boston Transcript.*

THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

April 6, 1906.—A bill passed the Senate to incorporate the Archeological Institute of America.

A bill passed the Senate to appropriate twenty-five thousand dollars for the establishment of a fish cultural station in the state of Kansas.

April 9, 1906.—Senate bill, 3,245, creating the Mesa Verde National Park, after amendment, passed the Senate.

April 11, 1906.—Senate bill, 4,487, granting to the state of Oregon certain lands to be used by it for the purpose of maintaining and operating there a fish hatchery passed the Senate.

April 13, 1906.—The bill to incorporate the Archeological Institute of America, which passed the Senate, has been referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, in the House of Representatives.

April 17, 1906.—A bill to prohibit aliens from fishing in the waters of Alaska passed the House, with amendments.

THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

THE American Philosophical Society held an extremely interesting meeting last week in commemoration of the Franklin Bicentenary. The program has been printed in SCIENCE, and we hope to print later an official account of the proceedings. New members were elected as follows: The Hon. J. H. Choate, LL.D., Dr. H. H. Donaldson, professor of neurology in the Wistar Institute of the University of Pennsylvania; Russell Duane, lecturer in the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania and a lineal descendant of Benjamin Franklin; Dr. D. L. Edsall, assistant professor of