

and sold at the practically nominal price of one penny each.

The Hull (England) Museum Publications 30 and 31 are mainly devoted to a description of recently acquired whaling relics and contain much information as to whaling between 1598 and 1868. The whaling fleet of Hull at one time numbered 60 vessels, averaging perhaps 325 tons each; the average number of whales taken in 1821 was 14 to a ship, which gives a good idea of the former abundance of the right whale. It is interesting to speculate on the effect produced on the balance of life by the wiping out of these great animals, and the consequent sparing of billions of the minute invertebrates on which they fed.

Notes on Some Recent Additions to the Exhibition Series of Vertebrate Fossils in the U. S. National Museum figures and briefly describes several important specimens, including crania of *Triceratops calicornis* and *Diceratops hatcheri*, both types. The suggestion, made by Professor Lull, that the lateral vacuities in the frill of this last species, were the result of injuries does not seem tenable. The skeleton of the female mastodon from Michigan is most admirably mounted and the measurements given show the animal to have been about two feet lower than the adult male.

The Preservation of Antiquities, by Dr. Friedrich Rathgen, issued by the Cambridge University Press, while not a museum publication, is of very general interest. The chapters of special value relate to the development, so to speak, and subsequent preservation, of objects of bronze and iron, and the figures show some very striking results that have been obtained by the processes described. It is to be noted that, as in other branches of museum work, care, and above all, patience are necessary adjuncts. *Zapon*, so often alluded to, is the subject of an article in the *Scientific American* for June 2.

F. A. L.

THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICAN ANTIQUITIES.

We print below the bill passed by congress and signed by the President in the preservation of American antiquities. Regulations,

in accordance with the provision of Section 4, are now being formulated.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who shall appropriate, excavate, injure, or destroy any historic or prehistoric ruin or monument, or any object of antiquity situated on lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States, without the permission of the Secretary of the Department of Government having jurisdiction over the lands on which said antiquities are situated shall, upon conviction, be fined in a sum not more than five hundred dollars or be imprisoned for a period of not more than ninety days, or shall suffer both fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 2. That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and may reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected: *Provided*, That when such objects are situated upon a tract covered by a bona fide unperfected claim or held in private ownership, the tract, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the proper care and management of the object, may be relinquished to the Government, and the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to accept the relinquishment of such tracts in behalf of the Government of the United States.

Sec. 3. That permits for the examination of ruins, the excavation of archeological sites, and the gathering of objects of antiquity upon the lands under their respective jurisdictions, may be granted by the Secretaries of the Interior, Agriculture, and War, to institutions which they may deem properly qualified to conduct such examination, excavation, or gathering, subject to such rules and regulations as they may prescribe: *Provided*, That the examinations, excavations, and gatherings are undertaken for the benefit of reputable museums, universities, colleges, or other recognized scientific or educational institutions, with a view to increasing the knowledge of such objects, and that the gatherings shall be made for permanent preservation in public museums.

Sec. 4. That the Secretaries of the Departments aforesaid shall make and publish from time to time uniform rules and regulations for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

*THE REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE
WALTER REED MONUMENT.¹*

THE committee on the Walter Reed memorial fund desire to submit, as is required, their report, and, as their work is practically finished, would ask to be discharged.

The amount subscribed to the fund up to May 1, 1906, as reported to the committee by General Calvin DeWitt, secretary of the Walter Reed Memorial Association, is \$20,943.64. The amount paid in is \$19,730.64, leaving subscribed, but not yet paid, \$1,213.

It was the desire of the committee and also of the Walter Reed Memorial Association that the sum of \$25,000 should be raised. The committee regret very much indeed that American cities and towns which have been devastated by yellow fever have contributed much less than \$1,000 all told, and nothing in the way of public, municipal or state subscriptions. They still further, and especially regret that the sum total from Cuba has been only \$25. It seems to the committee that the country from which yellow fever was eradicated after having been continually present for 140 years, and which has had pointed out to it clearly the way in which future epidemics can be absolutely avoided, should certainly have made some substantial acknowledgment of the services of a surgeon who not only made a contribution of enormous value from the sanitary point of view, but who has established its future commercial prosperity.

The committee can not tell precisely the amount subscribed by the medical profession, but it is a very large proportion of the nearly \$20,000 collected to date. It gives us pleasure to call attention to the fact that while few business men have recognized the enormous money value of Dr. Reed's services, to say nothing of the saving of human lives, his own profession has given such substantial recognition of the worth of his services in preventing

¹ Presented at the Boston meeting of the American Medical Association.

a disease which has committed such dreadful havoc in the past, but will never do so again.

JOSEPH D. BRYANT,
A. C. CABOT,
T. S. CULLEN,
VICTOR C. VAUGHAN,
ROBERT F. WEIR,
W. W. KEEN, *Chairman*.

THE SHALER MEMORIAL FUND.

THE following circular has been sent by a committee of alumni of Harvard University to the graduates of the College and the Scientific School:

Nathaniel Southgate Shaler, S.D., LL.D., professor of geology and dean of the Lawrence Scientific School, died in Cambridge, April 10, 1906, after more than forty years of faithful work at Harvard.

Professor Shaler's remarkable personality made a profound impression on the college and the community. The names of over 6,000 students have been enrolled in his classes. In recognition of his great services to the university, the executive committee of the Alumni Association has appointed the committee named below to secure a Shaler memorial fund, the form of the memorial and the disposition of the principal and income of the fund to be determined by the committee.

It is believed that many Harvard men, to whom the members of the committee are unable to write personally, will wish to subscribe to this memorial. This circular is therefore sent to all graduates of the college and the scientific school. Those who desire to contribute to the fund are requested to send their subscriptions, large or small (in the form of checks made payable to the Treasurer of Harvard University), to the chairman as soon as possible, in order that a good report of progress, stating the number of subscriptions as well as the total amount subscribed, can be made on commencement day, June 27.

THE ITHACA MEETING.

THE meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the affiliated societies at Cornell University next week is an event of importance in the history of scientific organization and the advancement and diffusion of science in this country. The