

to hold the chair of physics and astronomy until 1899, when the infirmities of old age necessitated his retirement with the rank of colonel. From that time until his recent death he lived in strict seclusion, retaining his connection with the institution as professor emeritus.

Personally Colonel Brooke was in his old age somewhat taciturn, retiring and singularly indifferent to popular recognition. The extraordinary influence which he exerted upon the Japanese shows that in his young manhood he was much more communicative, and that he was the possessor of great force, both of mind and of character. His ideals were lofty, and his fidelity to these and to his friends was unswerving. On coming to Lexington in 1866 he came into a congenial coterie that included such men as Robert E. Lee, Custis Lee, Pendleton, Letcher, Williamson and Maury, all of whom had held high office in the Confederacy. Among these intimates he was genial, full of humor and full of resources. Despite his modesty he was positive, a good hater, an intolerant foe to shiftiness and sham. In the performance of duty he was uncompromising to such an extent as to appear at times eccentric. These qualities became more pronounced with advancing years, and as death carried away one after another of his old friends he gradually became silent and exclusive. But to a willing ear he had a plenty to give, and the present writer remembers with pleasure his first interview with the solitary graybeard to whom he had just introduced himself. The old genial spirit came back as he became eloquent over his reminiscences of the Sea of Japan. During the last few years he has rarely ever been seen or heard, and the arrival of death was so gentle as to be scarcely recognized.

W. LeCONTE STEVENS

*PUBLICATIONS OF THE AMERICAN
ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY*

Announcement.—The American Ethnological Society is about to begin a series of publications which is to contain authentic material collected among native tribes of

America. The volumes are to appear at irregular intervals.

Notwithstanding the large amount of work that has been done on American ethnology, comparatively little material has been collected regarding the customs, beliefs, and ideas of the natives in their own words. Most of our collections have been obtained indirectly through the assistance of interpreters, or are discussions of information collected from individuals more or less familiar with English or with the trade jargon.

Knowledge possessed by the Indians is of great importance as well to the ethnologist as to the student of the early history of the American continent. For this reason authentic records of information given by the Indians seem to be of prime importance for a thorough study of these subjects.

The American Ethnological Society, in beginning its series of publications, is desirous of collecting and preserving for future use such records, and it is hoped that this undertaking will meet with the support of the public.

The following volumes of the publications of the American Ethnological Society are in preparation:

VOL. I. WILLIAM JONES, Ph.D., research assistant, Carnegie Institution, Fox Texts. In press. A collection of historical tales, myths, and accounts of personal religious experiences collected among the Fox Indians, a branch of the Algonquian stock. Recorded in original text, and published with translations.

VOL. II. EDWARD SAPIR, 'The Upper Chinook.' In press. An account of the Chinook Indians of the Upper Columbia River, and a collection of myths and personal accounts. Original texts and translations.

VOL. III. ROLAND B. DIXON, Ph.D., instructor in anthropology, Harvard University, 'Myths of the Maidu Indians of California.'

VOL. IV. FRANZ BOAS, Ph.D., professor of anthropology, Columbia University, 'Myths of the Tsimshian Indians of British Columbia.'

VOL. V. ROLAND B. DIXON, Ph.D., professor of anthropology, Harvard University,

'Myths of the Shasta Indians of Northern California.'

It is hoped that the following collection will also be published at an early date:

LIVINGSTON FARRAND, Ph.D., professor of anthropology, Columbia University, 'The Alsea Indians of Oregon.'

H. H. ST. CLAIR, 2d, 'Texts collected among the Coos Indians of Oregon.'

The price will be approximately \$2.00 for a volume of three hundred pages, and proportionately for larger or smaller volumes. It is hoped to bring out about two volumes a year.

JAMES GRANT WILSON, *President*.

FRANZ BOAS, *Vice-President*.

HARLAN I. SMITH,

Corresponding Secretary.

MARSHALL H. SAVILLE,

Recording Secretary.

GEORGE H. PEPPER, *Treasurer*.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. E. L. NICHOLS, professor of physics at Cornell University, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, was elected president of the American Physical Society at the New York meeting.

PROFESSOR GEORGE F. ATKINSON, of Cornell University, has been elected president of the Botanical Society of America.

OFFICERS of the Association of American Geographers were elected at the New York meeting as follows:

President—Professor Angelo Heilprin, Sheffield Scientific School.

First Vice-president—Professor Ralph S. Tarr, Cornell University.

Second Vice-president—Mr. G. W. Littlehales, U. S. Hydrographic Office, Washington, D. C.

Secretary and Treasurer—Professor A. P. Brigham, Colgate University.

Councillors—Professor W. M. Davis, Harvard University; Mr. Cyrus C. Adams, American Geographical Society; Professor J. Paul Goode, University of Chicago.

THE Brazilian government proposes to establish a national geological survey under the direction of Dr. O. A. Derby, who was for many years geologist of the state of S. Paulo. Dr. Derby went to Brazil in 1875 as a member

of the extinct Comissão Geologica, of which Professor C. F. Hartt was the chief. He has lived in Brazil ever since, and is the leading authority on Brazilian geology.

THE lords commissioners of the admiralty have appointed Sydney S. Hough, Esq., F.R.S., chief assistant to the astronomer at the observatory, Cape of Good Hope, to be astronomer at that observatory on the retirement of Sir David Gill, K.C.B.

PROFESSOR ARTHUR SCHUSTER has resigned his position as Langworthy professor of physics and director of the physical laboratories at Manchester. Dr. Schuster's connection with the university dates from 1871, when he entered Owens College as a student. In 1873 he held the post of demonstrator under Professor Balfour Stewart, and in 1881 he was appointed to the newly created chair of applied mathematics, which he resigned to become professor of physics in 1888. Both the council and the senate have placed on record by formal resolutions their regret at Professor Schuster's resignation.

PROFESSOR L. C. MIALL, D.Sc., F.R.S., will retire from the chair of botany in the University of Leeds in June, after thirty-one years' service.

DR. G. R. PARKIN has sailed from Liverpool to supervise the examinations for Rhodes scholarships throughout Canada and the United States. His address till the middle of February will be McGill University, Montreal.

MR. H. J. MACKINDER, M.A., director of the London School of Economics, has been appointed to represent the university at the Ninth International Congress of Geography to be held at Geneva in the summer of 1908.

SIR ALFRED JONES, president of the British Cotton-growing Association, has invited a party to accompany him to the West Indies in the interests of cotton-growing in the British colonies.

ON December 18 Dr. William Osler unveiled a portrait of the late Dr. J. E. Graham, formerly professor of medicine in Toronto University, a gift by the widow and son, Dr. J. S. Graham, to the Ontario Medical Library.

THE REV. ALEXANDER HARPER, M.A., Wishaw, has presented to the University of