

uary 17, the report of the council for the month of December last was read by the secretary (Dr. P. Chalmers Mitchell, F.R.S.), in which it was stated that during that month 150 additions had been made to the society's menageries—viz, 67 by presentation, 16 by purchase, two received in exchange, 61 received on deposit, and four born in the gardens. Amongst these special attention was directed to a pair of Siberian dholes (*Canis alpinus*), from Thian Shan, received in exchange on December 2, new to the collection; to a Cape hunting-dog (*Lycaon pictus*), from South Africa, purchased on December 1; to an Addax Antelope (*Addax nasomaculatus*), from North Africa, presented by the Duke of Bedford on December 18; and to a Bubaline Hartbeest (*Alcelaphus bubalinus*) and a hybrid between Père David's deer (*Elaphurus davidianus*) and the red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), deposited on December 29. The report further stated that the number of visitors to the society's gardens during the month of December had been 15,405, showing a decrease of 4,112 visitors as compared with the corresponding month of the year 1905, caused by the inclement weather experienced during the Christmas holidays. The total number of visitors during the year 1906 had amounted to 896,423, or an increase of 180,943 as compared with the total number of visitors (715,480) during the year 1905. The report also stated that the total amount of money received for admission at the gates had amounted to £22,359 2s. 2d., against the sum of £17,469 6s. 4d. received from the same source during the year 1905. The total number of fellows elected during the year 1906 had amounted to 371, showing an increase of 62 as compared with the total number of fellows (309) elected during the year 1905.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE has received a gift of \$1,000,000 from Mrs. Russell Sage. The money will be used for the School of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. Mrs. Sage has also given \$1,000,000 to the Emma Willard School of Troy, and \$250,000

to the international committee of the Young Men's Christian Association.

THE establishment and permanent endowment of Peabody College for Teachers, at Nashville, Tennessee, is now assured. The Tennessee legislature has just passed a bill donating to the college \$250,000. The city of Nashville has given \$200,000 and the county of Davidson \$100,000, making in all from these sources \$550,000. These gifts have been made in response to a proposition from the Peabody Education Board to endow the college with \$1,000,000 when the above amounts were available. All the conditions imposed by the Peabody Board have now been complied with and it only remains for that board to organize the institution. The college will thus have \$1,550,000 in money. In addition to this, the university of Nashville has donated the campus and buildings now occupied by the college, valued at \$250,000. It is understood also that gifts will be received at once from other sources amounting to about \$1,000,000. Should this hope be realized, the college will start on its new life with an endowment of \$2,000,000. It is the purpose of the authorities of the institution to solicit other funds for the erection of the necessary buildings.

By the will of Arthur Mills, of Brookline, Harvard University will ultimately receive \$150,000.

PROFESSOR SCHUSTER has offered to the University of Manchester during the next three or four years an annual sum of £350 as the stipend of a reader in mathematical physics.

THROUGH the death of Mrs. John Daglish, Armstrong College, Durham, will receive a bequest of \$25,000 for the establishment of a traveling fellowship in mining.

DR. ELLIS E. LAWTON, instructor in Yale University, has been appointed associate professor of physics.

THE University council of Liverpool University has elected Mr. Percy E. Newberry to the Brunner chair of Egyptology and Mr. John Garstang to the John Rankin chair of methods and practise of archeology, both of which chairs were recently established by Sir John Brunner, M.P., and Mr. John Rankin.