

size on most maps. The deflection of the Red river by the raft to the northeast side of its flood plain, and the resulting development of rapids, not yet graded, where it turns by a new course into the Mississippi flood-plain are items worth mention.

The lakes on the tributaries of the Danube near its mouth have, like those lateral to the Red river of Louisiana, been explained as due to aggradation of the main-river flood-plain. In view of the above restatement of the problem of the Red river lakes, that of the Danube lakes also may require a new interpretation.

W. M. D.

#### THE BICENTENARY OF LINNÆUS

THE trustees of the British Museum have deputed one of their officers, Dr. F. A. Bather, assistant keeper of the geological department, to represent the museum at the celebrations in Sweden of the bicentenary of the birth of Linnæus. Dr. Bather has been instructed to present two addresses to the University of Upsala and the Swedish Academy of Sciences, the former of which reads as follows:

The British Museum (Natural History), London.  
To the Royal University of Upsala.

It is with feelings of peculiar indebtedness that the Board of Trustees of the British Museum desires on this occasion to greet and congratulate the University of Linnæus.

In January, 1758, was published the tenth edition of the 'Systema Naturæ,' the edition from which the zoologists of the world now date the technical nomenclature of animals. In January, 1759, the British Museum was first opened to the public, and its Natural History Departments began the systematic study of the living and extinct animals and plants, taking for their guidance the works of Linnæus, and for their teacher his favorite pupil, Daniel Charles Solander.

By the acquisition of the Banksian Herbarium and Library, already brought to such perfection of arrangement by Solander and Jonas Dryander, the British Museum became the repository of many plants described by Linnæus, notably the originals of the celebrated 'Hortus Cliffortianus,' as well as of valuable manuscripts and books connected with the great Swede.

Desiring, therefore, to share in your celebration of one to whom the British Museum owes so much, the Trustees beg to join with this letter 'A Cata-

logue of the Works of Linnæus Preserved in the Libraries of the British Museum,' which they have had specially printed in honor of this occasion, and they have appointed as their delegate to present the same one of their officers, Dr. Francis Arthur Bather, M.A.Oxon, Assistant Keeper of the Geological Department.

May the world-wide fame of Linnæus and the fortune of the ancient University of Upsala ever endure and increase to the advancement of learning and the benefit of mankind!

EDWIN RAY LANKESTER,  
*Director*

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
May 11

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

M. DE LAPPARENT, professor of mineralogy and geology at Paris, has been elected permanent secretary of the Paris Academy of Sciences in succession to the late M. Berthelot.

THE senate of the University of Toronto has conferred the degree of LL.D., on Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, of Philadelphia.

At the recent commencement of the Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, the honorary degree of doctor of laws was conferred upon George Sumner Huntington, M.D., ScD., professor of anatomy, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. Professor Huntington delivered an address on 'Modern advances in the teaching of anatomy and other medical sciences.'

PROFESSOR ROLLA C. CARPENTER, who holds the chair of experimental engineering at Cornell University, has been given the degree of doctor of laws by the University of Michigan.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY has conferred the doctorate of laws on Dr. Joseph D. Bryant, of New York City, retiring president of the American Medical Association; on Charles W. Hunt, New York City, secretary of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and on Professor George F. Swain, professor of civil engineering of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, K.C.B., has received the Order of Commendatore della Corona d'Italia from the King of Italy.

THE friends of Dr. K. Mitsukuri, the distinguished professor of zoology and dean of the School of Science of the Imperial University in Tokyo, have been pained to learn that he was attacked on April 17 with apoplexy. After lying unconscious for a week or more he was on May 13 slightly better, but still seriously ill.

DR. THOMAS S. FISKE, professor of mathematics at Columbia University, has been given sabbatical leave of absence for next year.

MR. ANDREW WATT has been elected meteorological secretary of the Scottish Meteorological Society in succession to the late Dr. Buchan.

PROFESSOR MAURICE HENRIOT has been appointed director of the Experimental Laboratory of the Paris Mint.

THE Transvaal government has appointed a commission, consisting of Dr. Kynaston (Geological Survey Department), Mr. T. N. Leslie (Vereeniging), Mr. J. P. Johnson (Johannesburg), and Professor R. B. Young (Transvaal University College), 'to report to the government on the Bushmen paintings and stone etchings existing in the Transvaal, and as to what steps should be taken to preserve them from decay and mutilation.'

A GRANT of £150 has been made from the Balfour fund, Cambridge University to W. E. Agar, of King's College, in furtherance of his proposed expedition to the Paraguayan Chaco.

DR. BERGEN DAVIS, instructor in physics at Columbia University, has been appointed to the Ernest Kempton Adams fellowship for next year.

THE fellowship sustained by the alumnae association of the Woman's College of Baltimore, to be awarded annually to a member of the association, has this year been awarded to Miss Mary J. Hogue, of the class of 1905. Miss Hogue has already held the foundation scholarship in biology at Bryn Mawr College and the graduate scholarship in the same institution. She will pursue the study of biology in German universities. The Woman's College of Baltimore maintains three tables at

the United States Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Holl, Massachusetts. The following students have been awarded scholarships entitling them to the use of tables during the coming session: Anita Shemwell Dowell, Grace Imogene Guy, M. Louise Frazee.

THE Phi Beta Kappa address at Vassar was given on June 10 by Dr. Elmer Ellsworth Brown, U. S. Commissioner of Education.

DR. W. W. FOLWELL, professor of political economy at the University of Minnesota and formerly president of the institution, will make the address at Hobart College, on June 18, on the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of the William Smith Hall of Science.

THE two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Linnæus was celebrated on May 23 at the Western College for Women, Oxford, Ohio. An address was made by Dr. John M. Coulter, head professor of botany in the University of Chicago.

WE learn from English journals that among those upon whom an honorary degree was conferred at the recent celebrations at the University of Upsala in commemoration of the bicentenary of Linnæus were Mr. William Carruthers, F.R.S., former president of the Linnean Society of London, and Mr. Francis Darwin, F.R.S., who represented Cambridge University.

SPEAKING at the forty-seventh annual dinner of King's College, London, on May 27, Dr. Headlam, the principal, referred to the loss which the college has sustained by the death of Dr. MacFadyean, and suggested that there should be a public recognition of one who died as a martyr in the cause of science, and for the sake of amelioration of disease and the benefit of the human race.

SIR DIETRICH BRANDIS, F.R.S., the son of Dr. C. H. Brandis, professor of philosophy at Bonn University, and for many years inspector general of the forests of India, died on May 29, at the age of eighty-three years.

THERE will be on June 19 a civil service examination for the position of scientific as-

sistant with a salary of \$750 in the Bureau of Fisheries.

THE eastern branch of the American Society of Zoologists will hold its next annual meeting during convocation week at the Sheffield Scientific School, New Haven.

FOREIGN journals report that the movement for the institution of an Italian Association for the Advancement of Science, proposed at Milan last year, has now taken form and development under capable organizers, including Professor Romiti, of Pisa. The first meeting will be held at Parma in September next, when it is hoped that the sister associations of Europe and America will send delegates. Italy has many associations for the advancement of special sciences, but, as Professor Romiti has put it, she has yet to form an association which shall 'represent the synthesis' of them all. Attempts were made in 1839 and 1875 to start such an association on the British and German models, but they have had no successor. It is hoped and believed that the attempt which has now been renewed will result in the establishment of a permanent institution.

DR. LAWRENCE F. FLICK, director of the Phipps Institute, Philadelphia, and chairman of the committee on the International Congress of Tuberculosis, which is to be held in Washington in the fall of 1908, announces that he has received \$35,000 in subscriptions to a fund of \$100,000 which he is raising to meet the necessary expenses. The subscribers include Messrs. Martin Maloney and William H. Henscri, of Philadelphia; Messrs. Henry Phipps, George Blumenthal and Henry C. Frick, of New York, and Mr. Henry L. Higginson, of Boston.

MR. WILLIAM URBAN, of Brooklyn, N. Y., has recently presented his collection of minerals to Colgate University as a memorial to his friend, the late Rev. Edward Lathrop, D.D., who had been for some years before his decease president of the corporation of the university. The value of the collection is about \$2,500, and it will be installed in the new Science Hall, which bears the name of Dr. Lathrop.

THE library of Mr. Stuart M. Samuel, M.P., which Messrs. Sotheby will sell on July 1, contains the author's autograph manuscript of Gilbert White's 'Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne,' in the form of letters to Thomas Pennant and Daines Barrington, and arranged in a folio volume. The MS. remained in the possession of the author's descendants until 1895, when it was sold at Sotheby's and acquired by the present owner.

THE Norddeutscher Lloyd and the Hamburg-Amerika Lines have agreed to allow to members proceeding to the Fourteenth International Congress of Hygiene and Demography, to be held at Berlin, September 23 to 29, a reduction on the price of tickets.

AN exceptional opportunity for the study of evaporation in relation to climate is afforded by the Salton Sea. As our readers are aware, the sea was created by the accidental turning of the Colorado River into the Salton Basin, a dry valley in southeastern California lying below the level of the ocean; and now that the river has been restored to its original channel the sea has begun to dry away. The time required for its complete dissipation is estimated at from ten to fifteen years, and during that period the accession of water from all sources will be nominal. It will thus constitute an evaporation pan on a grand scale, and the measurement of its progressive lowering will give valuable information to engineers charged with the planning of reservoirs. The matter is also of importance to meteorologists, and arrangements have been made for a joint investigation by the U. S. Weather Bureau, the U. S. Reclamation Service and the U. S. Geological Survey. To determine the relation of the evaporation to temperature, atmospheric humidity and wind, a group of meteorological stations are to be maintained in the Salton Basin; and the endeavor will be made to develop a general formula for the estimation of evaporation in any locality where the ordinary climatic factors are known. A reconnaissance of the region has just been made by a board composed of F. H. Bigelow, C. E. Grunsky and G. K. Gilbert, representing severally the bureaus mentioned above.

BEGINNING on June 2, the Boston Society of Natural History proposes to open its museum free to the public on Sunday afternoons from 1 to 5, during June, July, August and September of this year. The exhibition rooms are regularly open free on Wednesday and Saturday from 10 till 5, but it is believed that the Sunday afternoon opening will accommodate many who are unable to visit the museum on week days. For the last five years, under the direction of its curator, Mr. Charles W. Johnson, the society has expended its efforts in endeavoring to make the New England collections the chief display of the museum so that at the present time a very good representation of the New England fauna is on exhibition. It is the society's intention to build up the New England collection of animals and plants so that it shall be as nearly complete as possible. In addition to the specimens on exhibition, there is also a rapidly growing study collection of birds, shells, insects and plants which may be consulted upon application to the curator on week days. Since this is the only natural history museum in the city and the only one whose particular scope is limited to the preservation and study of the New England fauna and flora, it is hoped that this action on the part of the society in opening its museum to visitors on Sundays will arouse additional interest in the study of New England natural history and that the museum may be a center to which all who are interested in this study shall feel themselves welcome.

*The New York Medical Record* states that the Carnegie Institution of Washington, which has been bearing most of the cost of publication of the present series of the *Index Medicus*, announces that as the journal has not met with the support from the profession that was hoped for, unless it appears that the *Index Medicus* is of greater service to the medical profession and can help to support itself to a greater extent than in the past, it may become advisable to discontinue its publication. The *Index Medicus* was established in 1879, under the editorship of Dr. John S.

Billings and Dr. Robert Fletcher, and was discontinued in 1899. The present series began with the number for January, 1903.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENT is made that the sum of \$430,000 has been contributed to Columbia University towards erecting Kent Hall, a building for the school of law and the faculty of political science.

THE Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, graduated, at its eighty-second annual commencement held on June 3, 126 students, of which 105 had received hospital appointments in the recent competitive examinations.

THE University of Giessen will celebrate its three-hundredth anniversary from July 31 to August 4.

PROFESSOR A. J. HOPKINS, A.B., Amherst, '85, Ph.D., Hopkins, '93, associate professor of chemistry at Amherst College, has been appointed head of the department in view of the retirement of Professor Elijah P. Harris.

AT Dartmouth College promotions from instructor to assistant professor have been made as follows: Charles A. Proctor, mathematics; Julius A. Brown, physics; Dr. Charles E. Bolser, chemistry.

AT Clark College, Dr. J. B. Porter has been promoted to an assistant professorship in psychology, and Dr. F. B. Williams, of Union College, has been called to an assistant professorship of mathematics.

MR. H. F. ROLKER, of the Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed private research assistant to Dr. J. Bishop Tingle, recently appointed to the chair of chemistry at the McMaster University, Toronto.

DR. ALEXANDER HILL has announced his intention of resigning from the mastership of Downing College, Cambridge.

MR. H. BATEMAN, fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been elected to the readership in mathematical physics, endowed by Professor Arthur Schuster to encourage research in mathematical physics.