The Geological Society of America.—December 30-January 4. President, President Charles R. Van Hise, University of Wisconsin; secretary, Dr. Edmund O. Hovey, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

ITHACA

The American Philosophical Association.—December 26, 28. President, Professor H. N. Gardiner, Smith College; secretary, Professor Frank Thilly, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

NEXT SUMMER, AT SOME PLACE TO BE DETERMINED

The Astronomical and Astrophysical Society of America.—President, Professor Edward C. Pickering, Harvard College Observatory; secretary, Professor Geo. C. Comstock, Washburn Observatory, Madison, Wisconsin.

THE ANNUAL DUES OF MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE permanent secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science begs to call the attention of members to the fact that the annual dues (three dollars) for the year beginning January the first should now be sent to him. The financial year of the association will hereafter end on October 31, and the dues for the following calendar year should be paid as soon as possible after that date. The dues are so small and the membership of the association has become so large that the sending of statements involves an expenditure of time and money, which, so far as possible, should be saved. The office of the permanent secretary must be removed to the place of meeting at Chicago during the last week in December, and the dues should be paid prior to that time. If they are not paid before January 1, there are serious complications in regard to the sending of SCIENCE to members. The association can not make itself responsible for sending SCIENCE to those whose dues are in arrears, as there are some who may regard the non-payment of dues as equivalent to resignation from the association. The back numbers of SCIENCE will be sent to those who pay their dues after January the

first upon the payment to the publishers of postage, so far as the edition permits, but the publishers do not guarantee that this will be done. Should the edition threaten to become exhausted, it will be necessary for those who wish to keep their sets of SCIENCE complete to pay for the numbers.

The permanent secretary takes this occasion to remind members of the desirability of assuming life membership in the association. By the payment of fifty dollars at the present time, all future trouble and expense is avoided. The fees of life members are ultimately transferred to the permanent fund, the income of which is used exclusively for the encouragement of research, and those who assume life membership thus contribute materially to the advancement of science. L. O. HOWARD,

Permanent Secretary Smithsonian Institution,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

An oil portrait of Professor James Mills Peirce, Perkins professor of mathematics at Harvard University until his death in 1905, has been presented to the university by his sister.

THE gold medal of the British Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, has been awarded to Sir Archibald Geikie in recognition of his services to geological science. The Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa gold medal and premium have been awarded to Dr. T. Kirke-Rose for researches on the metallurgy of gold.

DR. ROBERT KOCH has been promoted to the rank of Wirklicher Geheimer Rath, with the title of Excellency, in recognition of his researches into the causes of the sleeping sickness.

DR. J. A. ALLEN, curator of mammalogy and ornithology in the American Museum of Natural History and editor of *The Auk*, has been elected an honorary member of the Deutsche Ornithologische Gesellschaft; he has also been transferred from the foreign to the honorary class of members of the British Ornithologists' Union.