

and social parasitism is not a similitude. Organic degeneracy and degeneracy in human society are not, I take it, a mere equivalence in terms, but a result in effects through stages of adaptation entirely comprehensible. Sin, then, the expression of degeneracy, we may reasonably hope to believe and perhaps eventually to demonstrate from the facts of our science, is an error whose cure may lie within our own inherent impulses and whose existence may be terminated with the stronger growth of our intellectual and moral perceptions entirely within the sphere of nature herself.

JOHN M. CLARKE

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COLLEGE MEN

THE *Yale News* has made an analysis of "Who's Who in America" for 1910-11 and finds in the book the names of 8,529 college men. The data for fourteen institutions are given as follows:

	Law	Medicine	Education	Science	Engineering	Ministry	Writing	Mining Eng.	Journalism	Finance and Business	Government Service	Retired	Total
Harvard..	158	92	175	111	25	48	77	6	59	41	43	15	813
Columbia.	62	29	53	32	13	19	14	7	10	15	7	—	261
Yale.....	130	51	131	71	24	84	49	4	43	41	42	10	681
Michigan.	57	28	69	47	12	9	17	2	8	8	24	10	271
Virginia..	38	19	27	11	2	8	2	—	1	2	11	1	122
Wesleyan.	14	3	37	12	2	32	4	—	6	1	7	3	121
Princeton	50	20	41	11	3	46	14	1	17	8	8	1	210
R. P. U....	2	—	—	1	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
Amherst..	23	10	65	29	5	36	12	—	10	9	4	2	205
Williams.	21	5	27	10	1	30	8	—	9	4	7	1	123
Chicago...	10	5	32	18	—	7	4	—	4	5	2	1	88
M. I. T....	—	3	4	16	20	1	3	—	2	2	2	—	52
Cornell ...	15	9	38	39	27	7	11	—	10	3	5	3	167
Penn	32	53	29	18	11	15	10	3	11	4	9	3	200

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE officers of the American Museum of Natural History, who were elected at the annual meeting of the board, held February 13, 1911, are as follows: *President*, Henry Fairfield Osborn; *First Vice-president*, Cleveland H. Dodge; *Second Vice-president*, J. Pierpont Morgan, Jr.; *Treasurer*, Charles Lanier; *Secretary*, Archer M. Huntington; *Acting*

Director, Charles H. Townsend; *Assistant Treasurer*, United States Trust Company of New York; *Assistant Secretary*, George H. Sherwood. By unanimous vote of the trustees, Professor Bashford Dean, Columbia University, was reinstated in his post as curator of ichthyology and herpetology. The trustees also promoted Dr. W. D. Matthew from acting curator to curator of the department of vertebrate paleontology. Barnum Brown, assistant curator of fossil reptiles and Walter Granger, assistant curator of fossil mammals, become associate curators.

FOR the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which is to take place this year at Portsmouth on August 30 and following days, under the presidency of Professor Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B., F.R.S., the following presidents have been appointed to the various sections: *Mathematical and Physical Science*, Professor H. H. Turner, D.Sc., F.R.S.; *Chemistry*, Professor J. Walker, D.Sc., F.R.S.; *Geology*, A. Harker, M.A., F.R.S.; *Zoology*, Professor D'Arcy W. Thompson, C.B.; *Geography*, Col. C. F. Close, R.E., C.M.G.; *Economic Science and Statistics*, Hon. W. Pember Reeves; *Engineering*, Professor J. H. Biles, LL.D.; *Anthropology*, Dr. W. H. R. Rivers, F.R.S.; *Physiology*, Professor J. S. Macdonald; *Botany*, Professor F. E. Weiss, D.Sc., with W. Bateson, F.R.S., as *chairman of the Sub-section of Agriculture*; *Educational Science*, Rt. Rev. J. E. C. Well-ton, D.D.

A PORTRAIT of Sir William Crookes by Mr. E. A. Walton, has been presented to the Royal Society.

PROFESSOR D. OLIVER, F.R.S., formerly keeper of the herbarium and library of the Kew Gardens, known for his important contributions to botany, celebrated his eightieth birthday on February 5.

MEMBERSHIP in the Prussian House of Lords has been conferred on Dr. Wilhelm Waldeyer, professor of anatomy in the University of Berlin.

THE gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society has been presented to Dr. P. H.