

His life was gentle, and the elements
So mix'd in him, that Nature might stand up
And say to all the world, "This was a man!"

When his near relatives and dear friends affectionately laid his mortal remains beside those of his beloved wife last March in the Forest Hills Cemetery, well might they ask—

What hallows ground where heroes sleep?
'Tis not the sculptured piles you heap.
But strew his ashes to the wind,
Whose sword or pen has served mankind.
And is he dead, whose glorious mind
Lifts mine on high?
To live in hearts we leave behind
Is not to die.

JOHN MURRAY

CHARLES M. SCAMMON

CAPTAIN CHARLES M. SCAMMON, U. S. R. M., retired, senior officer of the service, died at his home, in East Oakland, Cal., May 2, in his eighty-sixth year. His death followed in less than twenty-four hours after that of his wife to whom he had been united for sixty-five years.

Captain Scammon was a native of Maine and came to the west coast in 1853, and for a time was engaged in the pursuit of whaling. He was the discoverer of the large lagoon on the west coast of Lower California in latitude $27^{\circ} 50'$, which has since borne his name. In 1861 he joined the revenue service with which he was connected until his death. He was detailed by the government to assist in the explorations of the Overland Telegraph Expedition in 1865, and commanded the flagship of their fleet for three years. To his intelligent and kindly cooperation the scientific corps of that expedition owed much of their success. Captain Scammon early became interested in the natural history of the marine mammals of the Pacific coast, and in those days before the invention of photographic dry plates, spared no trouble in gathering measurements, drawings and other data bearing on the cetacea. In 1874 these investigations were summed up in his finely illustrated quarto volume on the "Marine Mammals of

the Northwestern Coast of North America," which forms the most important contribution to the life history of these animals ever published, and will remain a worthy monument to his memory.

WM. H. DALL

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

PROFESSOR E. C. PICKERING, director of the Harvard College Observatory, has been created knight of the Prussian order Pour le mérite. Simon Newcomb and Alexander Agassiz are the only other American men of science on whom this honor has been conferred.

DR. THEODORE WILLIAM RICHARDS, professor of chemistry at Harvard, who is going to England at the invitation of the Chemical Society to deliver the Faraday lecture, will be given the honorary degree of D.Sc. by the University of Manchester on July 8.

DR. FREDERICK W. TRUE, who has held the position of head curator of the department of biology in the U. S. National Museum since 1897, has been appointed assistant secretary of the Smithsonian Institution in charge of the library and exchanges.

LORD CURZON, of Kedleston, has been elected president of the Royal Geographical Society in succession to Major Leonard Darwin.

THE Hanbury medal of the London Pharmaceutical Society for 1911 has been awarded to M. Jean Eugène Léger, chief pharmacist to the Hôpital St. Louis, Paris.

THE Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin has elected Dr. James George Frazer, fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and professor of social anthropology at Liverpool University, a member of the Philosophical-Historical Section.

THE American Philosophical Society at its recent meeting, elected the following residents of the United States to membership: George A. Barton, professor of Semitic languages, Bryn Mawr College; Bertram Borden Boltwood, professor of radio-chemistry, Yale Uni-