

various, and especially by its repeated, experiences.

Then came Butler, and, without knowledge of Hering's ideas, and out of a conviction that Darwin's natural selection of fortuitous variations was an absurd explanation of such fit things as instincts and hereditary repetitions, and that Lamarck's explanation of modification of individuals by effort and intent, carried over into racial acquirements by heredity, was a much better one but needed something else to make it complete, he re-invented the conception of biological memory and worked it out to its logical extreme. Just what this extreme is, and what the details of Butler's theory are, I leave to any of my readers interested to find out from Butler's books. For besides the interesting speculations of an intelligent and imaginative man about a subject that has, I am convinced, some real things in it to be found out some day, they will get from their perusal a gentle titillation of shock and amusement, such as the day's duty of "scientific reading" rarely brings.

Since Hering and Butler, have come, of course, Richard Semon with "Die Mneme" and its new, and perhaps useful, terminology for the older ideas, and lastly the blessing of Sir Francis Darwin on the whole idea, as well as on Butler himself, bestowed in his British Association President's address of 1908. But as it is Butler more than biological memory that this letter is meant to call attention to I may stop here. Butler died in 1902, and is only now coming to his hearing.

VERNON L. KELLOGG

LONDON,
February 24

THE DEATH OF NETTIE MARIA STEVENS

At a meeting of the faculty of Bryn Mawr College, held May 6, 1912, it was voted to make the following record in the minutes:

WHEREAS, the faculty of Bryn Mawr College has heard with sincere sorrow of the death of Nettie Maria Stevens, A.B. and A.M. of Leland Stanford Junior University, graduate scholar in biology in Bryn Mawr College 1900-01, president's European fellow 1901-02, resident fellow in biol-

ogy 1902-03, doctor of philosophy of this college in 1903, sometime research fellow in biology, Carnegie research assistant and Alice Freeman Palmer research fellow, and since 1904 as reader and then as associate in experimental morphology, a member of the teaching staff and of the faculty,

Resolved, that we, the faculty of Bryn Mawr College, desire to record our appreciation of her talent for research, of the skill and assiduity with which she carried on difficult investigations, achieving a success that placed her in the very front rank of students of science and gave her a world-wide reputation among workers in biology. No less would we recognize the faithfulness with which as a member of the faculty she responded to every call for her services in teaching or in any general work of the college. We deplore her loss. We honor her memory.

Resolved, that copies of these resolutions be sent to the relatives of Dr. Stevens, to the board of directors and to SCIENCE.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

At the suggestion of the German emperor, the Berlin Institute for Infectious Diseases will be named in honor of Robert Koch.

THE faculty, students and alumni of the university of California will erect in the museum corridor of the new agricultural hall of the University of California a bronze bust in honor of Dr. Eugene W. Hilgard, emeritus professor of agriculture.

PROFESSOR GRASSET, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of his professorship of medicine at Montpellier, was presented with his bust and a medal.

PHYSICIANS of Philadelphia have been invited to join in honoring the memory of Dr. John Herr Musser by subscribing to the memorial fund to be used to endow the social service department of the University Hospital, Philadelphia, of which he was the founder and president. The will of Dr. Musser provides that if the personal estate reaches \$240,000, the sum of \$15,000 shall be given to the University of Pennsylvania for the endowment of a fellowship in honor of the late Dr. Robert M. Girvin.

THE new medical laboratories for the two years' course in medicine given at the Univer-