mens. Another collection of surgical instruments, formerly the property of the Obstetrical Society, was presented by the Royal Society of Medicine, while Mr. Penrose Williams, of Bridgwater, has presented the whole of his collection, containing many desirable specimens. Of the primitive races now living, the native Australians are likely to prove the most instructive of the human body. The college has acquired by purchase several crania and skeletons of that race, while several presentations have been made which are of real value. Many rare and valuable specimens have been added to the series illustrating the osteology and diseases of the ancient Egyptians. Remains of ancient man have also been presented which were found in a cave, with wall decorations of a primitive type, in the south of Spain, and some casts of certain remains of ancient man which have given rise to much discussion in Europe. These are the only casts so far received in England. The Archeological Society of Broadstairs presented a series of skulls and skeletons belonging to the Bronze and Anglo-Saxon periods. These have been investigated and, for the first time, an approximately complete articulated skeleton of one of the Bronze Age men has been obtained. A medico-legal collection has been formed and a human femur, with photographs of human remains, found in the ruins after certain anarchists were besieged in Whitechapel, in January, 1911, has been presented. The new additions to the museum were specially exhibited on the occasion of the council election on July 4, and also on the two following days. There have been 12,231 visitors to the museum during the year.

## *UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS*

THE following new buildings and additions are now in the course of construction at the University of Illinois: transportation building, mining building, ceramics building, locomotive testing laboratory, addition to woman's building, addition to agricultural building, commerce building, stock judging pavilion, agronomy greenhouses, sheep and horse barns. In addition to these the law building is being remodeled and plans and appropriations have been made for a new armory and new horticultural greenhouses.

STEPHEN TABER, A.B. (Stanford, '06), Ph.D. (Virginia, '12), for the past three years assistant geologist on the Virginia Geological Survey and instructor in geology in the university, has been elected to the chair of geology in the University of South Carolina.

MR. HERBERT OTTO LUSSKY, assistant in physiology at the University of Chicago, has been put in charge of the department of physiology in the college of arts and science and the college of medicine of the University of South Dakota.

PROFESSOR JOHN N. SWAN has leave of absence from Monmouth College for one year and will have charge of the department of chemistry in the University of Mississippi. Dr. A. M. Muckenfuss, who is at the head of the department, has leave of absence for a year. He will first complete some research work and then spend the remainder of the year in Germany. Mr. J. P. Trickey, of the University of Pittsburgh, will take charge of the chemistry at Monmouth College.

AT the recent meeting of the board of trustees of the University of Illinois the following promotions were authorized: Ernest L. Bogart, professor of economics; J. Howard Beard, instructor of physiology; Francis C. Lincoln, assistant professor of mining engineering, and Horatio N. Parker, instructor in municipal and sanitary dairying.

## *DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE*

### A NEW FOSSILIFEROUS HORIZON ON BLUEBERRY MOUNTAIN, IN LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

LITTLETON, New Hampshire, has been particularly interesting to geologists because it is one of the few localities in the state where fossils have been found. These fossils are of Niagaran age.[1] They are contained in the

[1] Hitchcock, C. H., "New Studies in the Ammonoosuc District of New Hampshire," *Bull. Geol.*

lower members of a series of beds which, in the form of an irregular syncline, constitute the ridge known as Blueberry Mountain. The best specimens have been taken from the northern slope of Fitch Hill, the most northern eminence of the mountain. Here the succession of strata[2] is as follows: (1) A coralline limestone (30 to 50 feet thick)[3] resting unconformably upon an igneous foundation;[4] (2) a calcareous slate (5 to 8 feet thick)[3] in which are the impressions of brachiopods and trilobites; (3) limestone, partly dolomitic; (4) coarse feldspathic sandstone (arkose); (5) a thick mass of regularly banded argillites, passing upward into (6) a dark, pyritiferous sandstone. Previous to last summer no fossils had been found above the calcareous slate.[5]

In August, 1911, while engaged in geological investigations which were undertaken through the advice and generosity of Mr. R. W. Sayles, of the Harvard Geological Department, the writer discovered the distorted impressions of brachiopods, probably *Spirifer* or a related genus, in talus at the foot of the "crags," a precipice of the dark sandstone; but the specimens were not well preserved. In continuation of the same work, during the present summer, we chanced upon a fossiliferous sandy layer in the banded argillites, where a north-south road crosses the ridge between Blueberry Mountain and Bald Hill. This spot is two and a half miles from the Fitch Hill exposures of the same series, southwestward along the strike.

Since the lower part of the banded argillites is about 400 feet above the coralline limestone (omitting two thick basic sills which have been injected into the formation), and since this new locality is at least 300 feet above the base of the banded series, these fossils occur stratigraphically 700 feet or more above the Fitch Hill fossiliferous horizon.

The impressions are chiefly of brachiopods. They will be submitted for identification at the close of the field season. Meanwhile we shall make a more extended examination of the argillites.

Frederick H. Lahee

Littleton, N. H.,
August, 1912

*Soc. Am.*, Vol. 15, 1904, pp. 462, 479, 480. Also, by the same author, "The Geology of Littleton, New Hampshire," with an "Article on a Trilobite from Littleton and Notes on Other Fossils from the Same Locality," by A. E. Lambert. Reprint from the "History of Littleton." Published by the University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1905, p. 38.

[2] *Op. cit.*, 1904, p. 464, and *op. cit.*, 1905, pp. 15, 34.

[3] *Op. cit.*, 1905, p. 34.

[4] We shall publish a more detailed report on the geology of Fitch Hill at a future date.

[5] *Op. cit.*, 1904, pp. 479, 481, and *op. cit.*, 1905, p. 31.

## A PUZZLING PHOTOGRAPH

To the Editor of Science: In the issue of *Collier's Weekly* for August 3, under the caption of "A Prehistoric Peruvian Graveyard," Grace Whitworth gives a halftone picture of a remarkable ossuary which is stated to have been taken from a structure discovered, by some person unnamed, in a tropical jungle on the Ucayali River in Peru. The structure is stated to be a square of 200 feet enclosed by a wall 25 feet high, built "apparently of red clay," with no entrances, and along the top of the wall at regular intervals it is ornamented with vases made of the same material. Inside was an immense mass of human bones free from any superincumbent deposit and mostly in an excellent state of preservation (judged by the picture) and in some parts of the enclosure heaped to a depth of 18 feet. "Some entire skeletons were lying out straight, while thousands of other skulls and bones appeared to have been dragged about, probably by buzzards."

Allowing nine feet for the average depth of the mass and one cubic foot for the space occupied by one skeleton, there should be a total possibly amounting to 72,000 human beings represented by the deposit.

In an ordinary newspaper such a communication might be allowed to pass unnoticed with snake and fish stories, but in the