

to help in any investigation that looked to the better condition of growing crops or of improving the land. He covered a wide range in those investigations and was sometimes criticized for matters that were not understood or seemed of small importance to ordinary interests. He was an excellent teacher and interested his pupils in the subject at hand, sometimes pretty dry, and did everything possible to give those matters a practical turn. His methods were clear and concise and he had little sympathy with slack work.

He was observant of current events and always spoke his mind freely in comment. He never "played to the galleries" but expressed his opinion of affairs as they appeared to him.

The Bussey Institution never had much money to carry on its work. Professor Storer was thus hampered by lack of funds and he was unfortunate in not having the faculty for getting help of this kind. He drew freely from his own funds, which could not have been over large, to help the school and the individual students.

In social intercourse he was never forward at all. His wife was a great help to him in this way, and they together did many kind acts to a newly appointed instructor at the Bussey Institution. On her death he drew into himself more than ever and had little intercourse in an every-day way with others.

Professor Storer's work is of the greatest importance in agricultural chemistry; in a way it is the foundation of modern agricultural chemistry. When he began, it was all new and he made the beginning.

ROBERT H. RICHARDS

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THE ANTWERP ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

FROM the date of the bombardment of Antwerp, apprehension has been felt regarding the fate of the beautiful and costly zoological garden of that city. Messrs. Lorenz and Heinrich Hagenbeck, both of whom are yet in Hamburg, alive and well, have furnished the *Bulletin* of the Zoological Society of New York with a copy of a letter received by them from

Dr. Buttikofer, director of the Rotterdam Zoological Garden, which reads as follows:

All the bears in the Antwerp Zoological Garden were shot prior to the bombardment. The large feline carnivora were put into strong transportation cages and removed to the rear of the garden, likewise prior to the bombardment, while the small felinæ were transferred to cages in the cellars of the Festival Building. A few days before the surrender of the city, when the heavy cannonading started fires in all parts of the city, which could no longer be put out in consequence of lack of water, the large carnivora were likewise shot by resolution of the board of directors, *adopted contrary to the director's advice*. None of the other animals were killed, with the exception of a few venomous snakes. During the bombardment only one shell dropped into the garden, striking the ground in the open space for the turtles, where it fortunately did no material damage. Mr. L'hoest and his two younger children were my guests from October 5 to the earlier part of November, while the other members of his family likewise came to Rotterdam towards the end of the bombardment. Mr. L'hoest himself, whose mind had suffered severely from the effects of the terrible excitement and of the successive events which overpowered him, also came to Rotterdam for a few days, after the bombardment.

By the earlier part of November all the members of the family had returned to Antwerp.

The garden and the animals kept there have suffered no further damage during the siege, but you will readily understand that the number of visitors has so decreased as to be practically nil, while the membership will undoubtedly be reduced to such an extent that the very existence of the garden will apparently be put into serious jeopardy.

Everything here is in good shape, although there has likewise been a large decrease in our receipts, which compels us to be exceedingly economical. I presume that similar conditions prevail in all the zoological gardens in Germany, as well as in your country.

BENJAMIN PEIRCE INSTRUCTORSHIPS IN MATHEMATICS

THE Division of Mathematics in Harvard University announces that hereafter on or about the first day of March in each year it will recommend two persons for appointment to Benjamin Peirce Instructorships in accord-