

THE Harvard University corporation has set aside \$100,000 to pay Belgian professors who have been driven from their land by the war and may give courses at Harvard University next year.

JAMES R. MAGEE, '59, has left \$20,000 and a certain further residuary portion of his estate to Haverford College, to be added to the general endowment fund.

THE Evans Museum and Dental Institute Building, which will be occupied by the School of Dentistry of the University of Pennsylvania, will be formally dedicated on February 22.

THE Harvard Medical School will hereafter admit as regular students men who have completed two years' work in a college or scientific school of high rank, provided they present certificates (a) that they have stood in the upper third of their class, (b) that one year's course has been taken in physics, biology, general chemistry and organic chemistry, and (c) that they have a reading knowledge of German or French.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

PROFESSOR DALY'S IGNEOUS ROCKS AND THEIR ORIGIN

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Permit me to say a few words in regard to the criticism¹ by Mr. J. P. Iddings of a book recently published by Mr. R. A. Daly and entitled "Igneous Rocks and Their Origin." The criticism is of the destructive, not to say the volcanic, type, and one may well imagine Mr. Iddings laying down his pen with the deeply felt conviction that a heretical and dangerous book has finally been disposed of.

I am afraid Mr. Iddings underestimates the strength of his opponent and he probably does not realize what strong influence the Daly theories, particularly the stopping theory, have on the younger generation of geologists. Mr. Iddings thinks that the author of this book suffers from an exuberant, if not a disordered, imagination. What Mr. Daly thinks about the imaginative qualities of his critic has not,

¹ SCIENCE, November 13, 1914.

so far, been made public. An impartial observer would probably say that the ideal petrologist would be produced could a "syntectic" assimilation be effected of the two.

It seems to me that Daly's book is one of the best ever written on the subject of igneous phenomena. The principal facts are assembled in the first part of the book, illustrated in abundance from the best sources and from occurrences all over the world. In the second part the theories and hypotheses are set forth, and illustrated in the same lavish manner from the whole world's literature. It is not necessary to agree with all of the author's views; I certainly disagree most heartily with some of them. The book is not a "college petrography" to be put into the hands of the beginner, but the advanced student can not fail to be stimulated by these suggestive and brilliant discussions. Just to point out one line of argument: The theory of gas action, cupolas and "blow-piping" is a most interesting and important subject, very largely neglected in most discourses on intrusions.

As far as his criticism of the "quantitative classification" is concerned, Mr. Daly does not stand quite alone. There are many of us who fail to see in this elaborate system anything but an admirable card classification of analyses.

I venture to suggest, in conclusion, that the unfavorable criticism in SCIENCE does not represent the impartial opinion of petrologists in general.

WALDEMAR LINDGREN

BOSTON, MASS.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Photo-chemistry. By S. E. SHEPPARD, School of Agriculture, University of Cambridge. Longmans, Green and Company. 1914. Pp. ix + 461.

In this new volume of the series of "Text-books of Physical Chemistry," edited by Sir William Ramsay, Dr. Sheppard, of Cambridge, presents us with a most painstaking piece of work, and one which for its size is unusually comprehensive. The author presents his sub-