

the congregation when Dr. Douglas preached his sermon.

MARCUS BENJAMIN

THE MANUFACTURE OF APPARATUS AND CHEMICALS

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: It has often occurred to me that it would be beneficial to science if some of the large universities of this country would cooperate to build a factory where chemicals and apparatus would be manufactured and sold to the various scientific institutions at a correct margin of profit. Perhaps the Rockefeller or Carnegie Foundation could be interested in such a project. The majority of fellow investigators and university professors would welcome such an arrangement, for it would make material accessible which is difficult to obtain otherwise and might be an important source of instruction to industrial chemists and physicists.

LOUIS BAUMANN

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

LORD LISTER ON THE VALUE OF VIVISECTION

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In reference to the letter from Lord Lister to myself published in SCIENCE of March 30, 1917, I beg leave to make this explanation. Recently the original copy of this letter has been found. It is dated 12 Park Crescent, Portland Place, London, West, 4th of April, 1898, and addressed to myself. Just after its receipt I handed it to a friend to use in connection with the hearing before the United States Senate on the Gallinger Bill relating to animal experimentation in the District of Columbia. My friend presented it at the hearing and it is published in the pamphlet relating to that hearing.

When Sir Rickman Godlee sent me a copy of the "rough draft" of this letter not long ago, saying if it had been received he would like to publish it in his "Life of Lord Lister," I went with great care over all of my letters and could not find the original. As it was almost a score of years since it had been received I had quite forgotten it and came to the conclusion that either it had gone astray in the mails or had never been sent. It has been returned to me and I have placed it in the

Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

W. W. KEEN

PHILADELPHIA, PA.,

March 31, 1917

QUOTATIONS

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION AND WORK IN AGRICULTURE

THE annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science is one of the great scientific events of the year. It is a vast clearinghouse for ideas and results in science, and for the testing and molding of views. It presents the largest forum in this country for healthy, tempered but searching criticism in science, without which science becomes self-complacent, lax and unexacting in its requirements.

Beyond this, such a meeting of men associated with the various branches of science has a remarkably broadening influence. One gets new insight, suggestion and inspiration from such a contact of minds, such a presentation of evidence, such a weighing and testing of results and of views. The individual finds anew that his branch of science or his specialty has relations beyond the narrow limits in which he has been considering it, and that there is not only an interest in following this broader relation, but a danger unless he does that he may specialize too closely in his thinking and view his subject out of focus.

Hence it seems worth while for the man of science to foregather from time to time with his colleagues in the annual convocation, worth the time and worth the money outlay. This is not so much to listen to papers which might be read or to present a report which might be published, but to keep his mind from narrowing, to maintain a contact with science which is well nigh impossible otherwise, and an association which contributes so much to the zeal and the satisfaction of a scientific career. It brings him definitely into membership in that great fraternity of workers in the broad field of science—some for its own sake, some for its relations to human welfare, all having the common purpose to advance knowledge and understanding. It was the belief in such advantages that led thousands of men and women to jour-