

knees. It is at least conceivable that the differences in such respects might affect the temperature reactions of the body during fever, more advantageously in the case of those with less clothing. But if this is the explanation in the particular instance under consideration, it does not seem to hold in others; the Melanesians to whom the disease was brought suffered as greatly as the Chamorros and Tahitians, according to reports, although they cover the body at least as little as do the Caroline Islanders. Whatever the explanation of the Saipan observations, the fact remains that the two contrasted peoples differed greatly in their mortality; in the absence of any distinguishable external factors, their difference is most reasonably to be attributed to constitutional peculiarities.

HENRY E. CRAMPTON

BARNARD COLLEGE,
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY,
DECEMBER 24, 1921.

PRESENTATION TO PROFESSOR EMERSON

THIS society has come at last to the fountain-head of American geology—Amherst College. Nearly a century ago, while Amos Eaton was inspiring students at the Rensselaer School by his novel modes of teaching, and Silliman the greater, at Yale, was illuminating the facts and fancies of this science by his brilliant and fascinating deliveries, Edward Hitchcock was actually creating a geological survey of this Commonwealth of Massachusetts and initiating classes of students into the astonishing revelations and practical applications of a new science. It was a difficult field he found here in this Connecticut Valley and its complicated uplands; many different categories of geological facts crowded upon him, but he interpreted them with clarity and with such degree of distinction that he was, in due course, se-

lected by Governor Marcy of New York as the first state geologist for that well organized survey; an appointment which he accepted, entered upon but soon abandoned because that field was too far away from Amherst College—indeed, reason in plenty!

Let us remind ourselves that Edward Hitchcock was a distinguished divine, professor of natural theology and geology and president of this college, in the most uplifting days of the last century. This minister of the gospel was boldly entering upon paths lined with harvest fields of truth which to his contemporaries were fields of poison weeds. With equanimity he faced the bigotry of common ignorance and the theological odium; but his students heard and followed him gladly into those days of delightful and romantic adventure over this countryside, when every hill and knoll, each stream and gully, each glacial boulder and picturesque retreat was baptized by the geologist-president and his classes, with ceremonies of address and poem and song: Mounts Castor and Pollux, Mount Pleasant and Mount Pleasant, Met-tawampe and Aquilo, the Crescent, the Occident, the glacial stones Rock Rimmon, Rock Oreb, Rock Etam, and so on through a long list of natural monuments; names which should never be permitted to disappear from the map of Massachusetts, for they are storied monuments not only of her science and her scenery but of one of her great sons.

If I pay thus brief tribute to the eminent Hitchcock, it is only to intimate the influence which helped to mould this other great teacher of our science to whom we are come tonight with our hearts in our hands. Professor Emerson has grasped the very horns of the altar of this science, and as we consider wherein has lain his glowing success as a teacher, let us remember the atmosphere he breathed here in his student days. It was an atmosphere sweetened by the fragrance of a science just bursting into flower, tinged with joyous and natural emotions, but never robbed of its spirit of devotion. Teachers are the personifications of immortality. The men whom Emerson trained, and who have arisen one by one to their own niches in the science, sent out in

¹ Address of presentation to Professor Benjamin Kendall Emerson, LL.D., of Amherst College, at the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America, at Amherst, December 29, 1921.

their turn the influence that here inflated their hopes; and their own students, now turned teachers too, have sent the echos of the Emersonian days flying—an endless course, like the pursuit of the truth. The footprints in the Connecticut River sandstones were to Longfellow the theme of the Psalm of Life; to Hitchcock they were more than footprints on the sands of time; he saw in the varying depth of these impressions, made heavier on one side than on another as the creature changed its course or turned a corner, the play of a different muscle and the nerve message from the brain which compelled the muscular motion. There he found, registered in the immortal rocks the very purpose and impulse of life. And thus too, the great teacher. While about these tables, there are some who owe Professor Emerson a direct allegiance, probably there are none who have not been reached by the ever widening rings of his influence or been guided by his imprints on the science. We are here tonight to heap upon him our pledges and congratulations, to establish thus a milestone to mark here the passage of the years. Every rock in the fields of Old Hampshire County claps its hands and the mountains of the Commonwealth break forth into singing, for they are his by a peculiar right and by an emphasis of interest. To him who has sounded their depths and touched their heights, whose eyes have looked in upon the record written in their hearts, whose inspired hammer has loosened their tongues that their tales may be a part of human knowledge and their secrets turned to the advantage of the state—it is to him we make our pledge of admiration and regard. When Edward Hitchcock retired from the presidency of Amherst College, the trustees not knowing, perhaps, how else to express their substantial regard, presented him with silver plate. So too we, in best of heart and with keener sense of our act, ask you to believe this gift which comes from all of us, is but the miniature symbol of the measure of our regard.

JOHN M. CLARKE

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

DR. WHITE'S GIFT TO MORGANTOWN AND THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST VIRGINIA

DR. I. C. WHITE, since 1897 state geologist of West Virginia, distinguished for his contributions to the geology of coal and petroleum, and Mrs. White have given to the University of West Virginia and the city of Morgantown 1,911 acres of Sewickley coal, situated on Helen's Run, in Marion County. Officers of the geological survey estimate that the tonnage of the acreage will approximate 15,000,000 and on a conservative royalty basis should yield at least \$4,000,000 over a period of years, \$2,000,000 to the city and \$2,000,000 to the university.

Dr. F. B. Trotter, president of the university, and City Manager Sutherland have issued the following statement:

The funds arising from the sale or lease belonging to the West Virginia University are to be used as follows:

The income from the proceeds of said coal is to be used in assisting the State of West Virginia to equip and maintain a geological department of the State University at Morgantown, West Virginia, after the state shall have constructed an adequate fire-proof building, including museum space for minerals, fossils, working laboratories, lecture rooms, etc., the only restriction upon the expenditure of the income being that it shall be devoted solely to the use and benefit of the geological department of the State University in the city of Morgantown, W. Va.

The income from the moiety belonging to the city of Morgantown is to be used in equal proportions under the following two heads, viz.:

First: For assisting the city of Morgantown in the purchase, improvement and maintenance of a public park in or near said city, for the pleasure and enjoyment of all its people.

Second: For assisting the city of Morgantown in securing, equipping and maintaining a public hospital of ample size and facilities in which the citizens of Morgantown, West Virginia, and especially all those of limited financial resources, can secure proper medical and surgical attention at a minimum cost, and in case of the very poor, free of all cost for such medical, surgical and hospital care as is necessary for their restoration to health.