

and was buried in the pauper lot of Ronaldson Cemetery. Only the intervention of two or three students saved him from the medical college. In 1919 a stone was placed over his grave by Mr. Henry C. Mercer, of Doylestown. This reads:

CONSTANTINE S. RAFINESQUE

Naturalist and Philosopher

Born, Constantinople, 1785

Died, Philadelphia, Sept. 18, 1840

To do good to mankind has ever been an ungrateful task.
The work of God to study and explain
Is happy toil and not to live in vain.

Other epitaphs suggested by Rafinesque himself were these:

Un voyageur dès le berceau
Je le serai jusqu'au tombeau.

Linné, grand génie, il a choisi pour guide.

Quite recently Transylvania has interested itself afresh in the most famous of its line of professors. Mrs. Charles F. Norton, librarian, sent to Philadelphia for a photograph of the headstone, intending this as a gift to the Rafinesque Botanical Club of the university. It was found that the cemetery was to be turned into a public park. On learning this, Mr. James A. Spencer, a brother of Mrs. Norton, "expressed a wish that Transylvania, which had loved and honored Rafinesque, might have his body, which was buried in a neglected grave."

This plan was duly carried out in March, 1924, as I learn from Mrs. Norton, and the bones of the restless explorer now lie in the campus of Transylvania.

It is no longer true, as the present writer said forty years ago, in a biographical sketch of "A neglected naturalist," that "we know not even the place where he rests after his long journey."

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NAMING AND EXACT NAMING

IN SCIENCE, vol. 45, page 190, 1917, I called the attention of my colleagues to the need for more complete titles, suggesting that in biological papers the name of the animal studied be given. This is now more often done, but owing to the still frequent omission of this datum, the difficulty thus introduced in collecting the literature on a given animal is painfully evident to any one who has made the attempt.

I beg now to present a further request touching the name of the rat, an animal so largely used for a variety of biological investigations.

The term "white rat" has appeared not infrequently in recent titles, but this says nothing concerning the color of the eyes. If, for this, the term "albino rat" were employed, there could be no question as to the variety used, and some day this may prove to be important.

Further, several active laboratories now use the pied rat, not the albino. Though the pied rat is very close to the albino in many respects, yet there are differences between the two strains, and it will be of the greatest assistance in the more refined studies on this animal—studies which are already upon us—to know exactly the form employed, for it is increasingly evident in the biological field that before giving any results, the animal studied should be precisely named.

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THE SCIENTIST AND AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

At the general meeting of the American Philosophical Society, held in April, it was my privilege to present a paper on "The scientist and an international language." This will appear in the *Proceedings* of that society; but as the subject seems to have attracted some attention on the part of scientists and of the public press, I should like to lay the matter before the members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. My thesis is, that as the scientist is nowadays overworked by the necessity of learning a considerable number of languages in order to read the literature of his field, he needs a single international medium, in which publications intended for or deserving of an international clientele should be published; further, that Latin is the logical choice for this use.

Latin had such an international use until nearly the end of the eighteenth century, but by that time was displaced by English, French and German. Today, with the recrudescence of certain minor linguistic units and the increased nationalistic spirit of certain larger ones, we face a time when scientific publications of value may appear in perhaps twenty languages. The task even now has become too heavy, and many publications of value remain inaccessible or unknown to those who should be able to avail themselves of them. A common medium must be sought, either a modern language or Latin or an artificial language.

For the natural scientist, the *sine qua non* in his choice is that the international language should convey the thought with objective certainty. Any artificial language can show no such objectivity; but