

mittee at Milan is considering the cost of the project. The Royal Italian Geographical Society has promised its support.

THE U. S. National Museum recently received as a gift the collection of insects belonging to Geo. M. Greene, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Mr. Greene began to form this collection in 1893 and devoted himself principally to Coleoptera, although his collection contains several thousand named and arranged specimens in other orders. The collection is of unusual value because the specimens are neatly and completely labeled, well mounted and thoroughly classified. The beetles alone number over 42,000 specimens. H. S. Barber and C. T. Greene, of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology, made a trip by automobile to Philadelphia on October 21 and 22, to bring the Geo. M. Greene collection to the museum.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

UNDER the will of Frank Thorne Patterson, of Philadelphia, his estate, after the death of his widow, is to be divided between Jefferson Medical College, the hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Museum and the School of Industrial Art and Bryn Mawr Hospital. The value of the estate is estimated at approximately \$2,120,000.

THE late Nina Lea, of Philadelphia, has bequeathed to the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University \$150,000 each, to endow professorships in memory of her father, Henry Charles Lea, well-known historian.

DR. A. F. O. GERMANN has been granted a leave of absence from Valparaiso University, to return to his former position of research director for the Laboratory Products Company, Cleveland. Harry V. Fuller, formerly professor of chemistry at Pei Yang University, China, has accepted the position of acting professor of chemistry at Valparaiso University in Professor Germann's absence.

DR. GORDON WHYBURN has been promoted to a full professorship of mathematics at the University of Texas.

BRENTON R. LUTZ, of the department of biology at Boston University, has been promoted from assistant professor to professor in the department.

DR. ELMER L. SEVRINGHAUS has been transferred from associate professor of physiological chemistry to associate professor of medicine and associate physician to the Wisconsin General Hospital, Madison, and Dr. Edgar J. Witzemann, formerly of the Mayo Clinic, has been appointed assistant professor of physiological chemistry, to succeed Dr. Sevringhaus.

DR. LESLIE HELLERMAN, who has been research instructor at the University of Chicago, has received an appointment in the department of physiological chemistry of the Johns Hopkins University Medical School as associate.

MISS MINNIE A. GRAHAM, associate professor of chemistry at Mills College, has been appointed professor of chemistry in the Dominican College of San Rafael.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE TUMORS IN THE LOWER CARBONIFEROUS

UNUSUAL growths on the fin spines of modern fishes have been known for a long time under the name of Osteomae. They are hard, dense and almost ivory-like. I do not know what produces these pathological growths, since no one has studied them for the determination of this point, so far as I know. While summarizing our knowledge of pathological conditions¹ among fossil vertebrates I mentioned these growths as possible tumors, and stated that they were unknown among fossil fishes.

Recently Mr. Errol Ivor White² has sent me his paper describing a collection of fishes from sections of the Lower Carboniferous rocks below Newton Farm in the parish of Foulden, five miles west of Berwick-on-Tweed, by the youthful Thomas M. Ovens, whose death at the age of nineteen cut short what might have been a marvelous intellectual career.

One of the incomplete specimens of *Phanerosteon mirabile* Traquair shows on the anal radials "bladder-wrack"³ osteomae, which are so common in some types of living fishes. This discovery is not only the first of the fossil osteomae, but it is the earliest geological record of any pathological growth in the vertebrate group. It is the earliest pathological record.

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MASTODON REMAINS IN WASHINGTON

ABOUT the middle of August there was found on the property of Virgil Schaefer, about four miles northeast of the village of Blyn, Clallam County, Washington, some remains of a mastodon. Because of the

¹ "Paleopathology, an Introduction to the Study of Ancient Evidences of Disease." Chapter iii. Urbana, 1923.

² "The Fish Fauna of the Cement Stones of Foulden, Berwickshire." *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinburgh*, LV, pt. I (No. 11), p. 268, 1927. Text figure 19, A.

³ A seaweed, *Fucus vesiculosus*, yielding material prescribed for obesity, goiter, etc.