

vocable trust of \$1,000,000 to be devoted to this medical service and medical education.

WE learn from the London *Times* that a delegation of professors of the faculty of science of the University of Geneva on May 29 deposited a wreath on the tomb of Sir Humphry Davy, who died in Geneva on May 29, 1829, fifteen hours after his arrival from Rome. He was buried in the Plainpalais cemetery, where the town granted a free burial place for ninety-nine years. The concession was renewed some years ago by the Royal Society until 1965. Lady Davy expressed her gratitude in a letter which presented the university with a sum which has made it possible ever since to award the Davy prize each year for the best study by students of the university in physics, chemistry, mineralogy, botany or geology.

A BRONZE portrait bust of the late Sir Clifford Allbutt, Regius professor of physics at the University of Cambridge from 1892 to 1925, was unveiled by Sir James Crichton-Browne, in the Allbutt Library of the medical school, on May 18. Lady Allbutt, the donor of the portrait, was at the ceremony. The Allbutt Library occupies the room formerly known as the Kanthack Library, which has been removed to the new pathological department.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., has presented to the trustees of the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory the Karst property opposite the laboratory dining hall at Salisbury Cove. The house will be occupied this summer by the family of Dr. E. K. Marshall, Jr., professor of physiology in the Johns Hopkins University.

THE Association to Aid Scientific Research by Women announces its continued support of the American Woman's Table at the Zoological Station at Naples for the years 1929-1930 and 1930-1931. Applications for the use of the table must be made to the secretary of the Association, Mrs. Samuel F. Clarke, Williamstown, Massachusetts. There is no required limit of occupancy, but it is always hoped that a worker can arrange to stay for three months. No financial help is given—merely the opportunity to occupy a research room; but the American Woman's Table is fully equipped with apparatus so that none need be carried by the student. Since no instruction is given the table is only awarded to those who are ready to carry on independent investigation, and preferably to those who have a definite piece of work in mind which can best be carried on by the facilities offered at Naples. The American Woman's Table was first supported in 1898 on the suggestion of Dr. Ida Hyde, one of the first American women to study there, and as a courtesy to Dr. Dohrn on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of the laboratory. With

the exception of one war year, and a few years at a later period during reorganization of the support of the station, the table has been continuously maintained by the Association to Aid Scientific Research by Women.

THE response to the preliminary announcement issued in connection with the fourth World Poultry Congress, which is to be held at the Crystal Palace in July, 1930, has been, according to the London *Times*, so substantial that the accommodation will be severely taxed. The international response has been exceptionally gratifying, and, though it is not possible at present to state the number of countries that will participate, it is clear that the event will attract a great many visitors. Active preparations are being made in Canada and in the United States, as has already been stated; and in France, Holland and Germany national committees have been set up. The Irish Free State Minister of Agriculture has appointed a committee to advise the Department of Agriculture with regard to that country's representation at the congress, and particulars can be obtained by intending exhibitors from the secretary, World Poultry Congress Committee, Department of Agriculture, Government Buildings, Dublin. The British national exhibit will be planned under the guidance of the Department of Overseas Trade.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NOTES

COLONEL ROBERT W. STEWART, of Chicago, former chairman of the board of directors of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, has given \$200,000 to Coe College for a memorial library in honor of his father and mother.

DR. ROBERT G. SPROUL, vice-president and comptroller of the University of California, has been elected president to succeed Dr. W. W. Campbell, who will retire on July 1.

DR. KATHARINE BLUNT, professor of food chemistry at the University of Chicago, has been appointed president of the Connecticut College for Women at New London.

DR. LEWIS H. WEED has retired as dean of the faculty of medicine of the Johns Hopkins University. He will remain head of the department of anatomy.

DR. RICHARD G. TYLER, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been appointed professor of sanitary engineering and dean of the college of engineering at the University of Washington.

FREDERICK V. LOFGREN, instructor in the college of pharmacy at the University of Washington, has ac-

cepted a position as dean and professor of the college of pharmacy at Valparaiso University.

DR. OTTO FREDERIC KAMPMEIER, professor of anatomy at the University of Illinois College of Medicine, has been appointed head of the department of anatomy to succeed the late Professor Victor E. Emmel.

DR. T. FRANKLIN SIBLY, the geologist, principal of the University of London, has been elected vice-chancellor of the University of Reading, in succession to Dr. W. M. Childs, who is retiring in September.

DISCUSSION

GIFT TO DOWN HOUSE OF THE ORIGINAL LETTERS OF CHARLES DARWIN TO FRITZ MÜLLER

AFTER a year and a half of correspondence Professor Osborn has succeeded in purchasing from the Müller heirs in São Paulo, Brazil, the originals of the entire series of letters from Charles Darwin to Fritz Müller, chiefly written from Down House during the period from August 10, 1865, to January 4, 1882. These precious letters, which are now on their way to the American Museum of Natural History by registered mail, have been lying in the safe of Dr. C. T. Stewart, president of Mackenzie College, São Paulo, Brazil, and were reported in December, 1928, by Director L. V. Coleman, of the American Association of Museums, as being in excellent condition. The find was rather surprising since we had been informed "that one of the Müller heirs had successfully carried out his intention of taking all the Müller correspondence to Germany some time ago."

At the time Francis Darwin was preparing the life of his father he secured from the Müller heirs very accurate typewritten copies of all these letters, from which he made more or less copious extracts for his four biographic volumes. The series of inquiries which Darwin addressed to Müller cover a very great variety of subjects but chiefly relate to the problems of mimicry and to the cross and self-fertilization of plants. Despite Darwin's very delicate health they are written with very great care. After the first letter of inquiry each succeeding letter opens with an enthusiastic word of appreciation. The letters are fifty-eight in number, and by comparison in the American Museum with Francis Darwin's "Life and Letters" (edition 1896) it has been found that the series contains the August 10, 1865, letter with which Charles Darwin opened the correspondence. Seven more of the Müller letters are quoted in whole or in part in Volume II of the "Life and Letters," and thirty letters are quoted in whole or in part in Francis Darwin's "More Letters of Charles Darwin" (edition

1903). Thus of the fifty-eight letters secured for the memorial collection in Down House, which was opened on June 7 as a national shrine to the great naturalist, there are thirty-eight wholly or partly published and twenty still to our knowledge unpublished. Of the great German naturalist with whom Charles Darwin had this long correspondence, Francis Darwin writes, "My impression is that of all his unseen friends Fritz Müller was the one for whom he had the strongest regard." A biographical note on Fritz Müller is given on page 382 (Volume I) of "More Letters of Charles Darwin." His full name was Dr. Johann Friedrich Theodor Müller and he was residing in Blumenau, Sa. Catharina, South Brazil, when Darwin was writing to him.

HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

A CASE OF ACCIDENTAL PARASITISM

DURING the spring of 1927 Dr. Parke H. Simer, of Illinois Wesleyan, was at Money, Mississippi, on the banks of the Tallahatchie River collecting parasites. This river joins the Yalobusha to form the Yazoo River, which empties into the Mississippi near Vicksburg. All the Cestodaria secured were kindly turned over to me, and all these were taken with but a single exception from members of the Catostomidae, or suckers. One new species, *Glaridacris confusus*,¹ presented some interesting infection data, so unusual, in fact, that it seems wise to present this note separately.

Glaridacris confusus has been reported from several localities and hosts. *Ictiobus bubalus*, the small-mouthed buffalo fish, harbored this parasite in the Rock River, Illinois, and in the Mississippi River near Fairport, Iowa. Dr. Simer collected this parasite from the same host in the Tallahatchie River as well as from several undetermined *Ictiobus* sp., and *Dorosoma cepedianum*, the gizzard shad. The parasite is by far one of the most common in this region, being present in twenty-five of thirty-four *Ictiobus* examined, or 73.5 per cent. In addition it has been frequently encountered in Illinois and Iowa from the same host. Yet it is found but once in *Dorosoma cepedianum*.

No light can be gleaned from the parasite itself concerning this infection since we do not know any of the stages in its life history. Let us therefore examine this unusual host, *Dorosoma cepedianum*. The most striking feature appears to be that the two hosts of this parasite, the buffalo fish and the gizzard shad, belong in two widely separated families, Catostomidae and Dorosomidae (Clupeidae), respectively. Accord-

¹G. W. Hunter, III, "New Caryophyllaeidae from North America," in press.