

the orbits was 9 ft., 3 in.; the length of the jaws was 20 ft. along the outer curve, while the combined weight of cranium and jaws was four tons.

The approximate weight of a specimen of this size, as determined by Mr. S. C. Ruck, are as follows:

	Pounds.
Weight of bones	17,920
Weight of blubber	17,920
Weight of flesh	89,600
Weight of whalebone, including the attached gum	1,750
Weight of viscera and blood, estimated	13,440
Total	140,630
or not far from 63 tons.	F. A. L.

MEMORIAL TO SIR WILLIAM FLOWER.*

My Lord Archbishop, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The late Sir William Flower, formerly director of this museum, was one of my oldest and most intimate friends. It was, therefore, with great pleasure that I agreed to the request of the Flower Memorial Committee to say a few words on the occasion of the presentation to the trustees of the bust of the late director.

The bust which, as you will presently see, so well represents the kindly countenance of our deceased friend, is the work of Mr. Thomas Brock, R.A., and no one, I think, will deny that the talented artist has achieved a remarkable success in producing it. But before formally presenting it I may venture to say a few words about him whose memory we seek to honor on the present occasion, and about the excellent scientific work which he performed.

Born in 1831, Flower was a member of a well-known family of Stratford-on-Avon, and, showing remarkable taste for natural history in his early youth, was educated for the medical profession. He graduated at the University of London in 1851 and became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons the

same year. In 1852 he read a paper to the Zoological Society on the structure of a species of *Lemur*, the first of a long series of communications to that society which continued for forty-five years.

In 1854, on the Crimean War breaking out, Flower joined the Army Medical Staff, and was present at the battles of Alma, Balaclava and Inkerman, and at the capture of Sevastopol, and afterwards did good work in the British Hospital at Scutari, in acknowledgment of which he received the Crimean medals.

On returning to England, Flower quickly reverted to natural history, and in 1855 was appointed demonstrator of anatomy to the Middlesex Hospital and curator of its museum. Here he did excellent work, and so plainly showed the stuff that he was made of, that six years later, in 1861, on the death of Quekett, he was appointed conservator of the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons. This important post Flower held for twenty-two years and, as we all know, carried out its duties in a most effectual manner. When the president of the Royal Society delivered to Flower the Royal medal in 1882, he said: 'It is very largely due to Professor Flower's incessant and well-directed labors that the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons contains the most complete, the best ordered and the most accessible collection of materials for the study of vertebrate structure in existence.'

From 1870 to 1884 Flower was Hunterian professor of comparative anatomy and physiology, and gave the admirable courses of lectures on these subjects which have rendered his name famous in the annals of zoological science.

In 1879, on the death of Lord Tweeddale, Flower was unanimously elected president of the Zoological Society of London, upon the council of which he had served for many years previously, and retained this post until his death in 1899. In 1884 the directorship of the great Natural History Museum in which we are now assembled became vacant by the death of Professor Owen, and Flower, being *omnium consensu* most admirably fitted for it, was selected for the post. Of the way in which he performed the heavy duties of this

* Full text of Dr. Selater's address on the occasion of the presentation of a bust of the late Sir William Flower to the trustees of the British Museum, July 25, 1902.

office it is quite unnecessary for me to speak to the present company. It must suffice to say that the whole of his time and all his great abilities were devoted to the performance of the multifarious business of this important position.

In 1899 Flower was president of the British Association at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and devoted his presidential address mainly to museums and their arrangement. This was, no doubt, one of his favorite subjects, and Virchow, of Berlin, is said to have called him the 'Prince of Museum Directors.' Thus we see that Flower had occupied three of the most exalted and conspicuous posts that any devotee of zoology could hope to attain—the directorship of the Natural History Museum, the presidency of the British Association and the presidency of the Zoological Society of London. Besides this he was selected for the presidency of the International Congress of Zoologists which met at Cambridge in 1898, but the unfortunate failure of his health compelled him to surrender this last appointment.

In zoology, no doubt, Flower's chief subject was the class of mammals, and the work by which he will probably be best known to posterity is his volume entitled 'Mammals, Living and Extinct,' published in 1891, in which he was assisted by Mr. Lydekker. This admirable hand-book is, and will long remain, our standard work of reference for students of the class of mammals.

A distinguished writer has well said: "No comparative anatomist of recent times has more devotedly or with greater ability and accuracy studied mammals. Moreover, in every instance he has enlarged our knowledge by his acute and comprehensive views, and, since the range of his contributions passes from the monotremes to the primates his influence on the subject has been immense.

"The labors of his life culminated in the magnificent series of whales, which it was one of his last duties to arrange and exhibit in a remarkably ingenious manner.

"While a splendid series of mounted skins, models and skeletons themselves can be studied in the whale room numerous drawings and labels enable the visitor to grasp still

further the form and structure of these gigantic denizens of the deep. No more fitting memorial of the skilful hand of the leading authority on the subject could be found than this marvelous and unique collection."

And no more fitting situation, I think, it will be generally acknowledged, could be found for the bust, which so well recalls the features of the deceased naturalist, than the whale room which he planned and furnished, and in which, I believe, it is proposed to place it.

My Lord Archbishop:

In the name and on behalf of the 185 subscribers to the 'Flower Memorial Fund' (which has received the generous support of the zoologists of nearly every part of the world) I beg leave to offer this bust for the acceptance of the trustees of the British Museum.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF ARCHEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY.

A MOVEMENT promising to effect much in the way of stimulating scientific and historical research throughout the western hemisphere, and perhaps even more in the direction of bringing about close and more harmonious relations among the several American republics, was initiated at the second International American Conference in the City of Mexico in January, 1902. The first step was taken by Hon. Volney W. Foster, of Chicago, one of the representatives of the United States in the conference; with the cooperation of Señor Don Alfredo Chavero and others, he introduced a resolution providing for an International Commission of Archeology, which was adopted by the conference and recommended to the several participating countries in the volume of 'Recomendaciones, Resoluciones, Convenciones y Tratados,' issued later in the same year. The first of the American republics to take action in accordance with the recommendation of the conference was Mexico; in October last President Diaz appointed Señor Chavero as a representative on the part of the Mexican government to confer with similar representatives from other countries concerning procedure toward the organization of the commission. Dr. Chavero visited