

000 of the \$50,000 required for the erection of a building.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE has given Williams College \$900 to free the infirmary from debt.

EDWARD PIERCE, PH. D. (Harvard), has been appointed instructor in psychology in the University of Michigan.

V. L. LEIGHTON, last year assistant in the chemical laboratory of the University of Kansas, has been called to a similar position in Tufts College, Mass.

THE annual meeting of the New England colleges was held at Hanover, N. H., (Dartmouth College) on November 7th and 8th. The institutions represented by delegates, including in nearly all cases the presidents, were Harvard, Yale, Brown, Williams, Amherst, Trinity, Wesleyan, Tufts, Boston, Bowdoin, Clark, Vermont and Dartmouth.

AN association of colleges and academies of the Southern States was formed at Atlanta on November 7th, representing fourteen institutions.

THE friends of Mrs. Agassiz have contributed \$6,000 to Radcliffe College to be used for the establishment of an Elizabeth Cary Agassiz Scholarship.

DR. GALLE, professor of astronomy at the University of Breslau and director of the observatory, has resigned.

DR. KLINGER, professor of chemistry at the University at Bonn, has received a call to the University of Königsberg.

THE electrical and anatomical institutes founded by M. Ernest Solvay and presented by him and other donors to the University of Brussels, were officially inaugurated on October 30, under the Presidency of the Burgomaster, assisted by M. Graux, the Chancellor, and the entire body of professors. Delegations from the English and Continental universities responded to the

invitation of the Brussels University to take part in the series of *fêtes* organized in celebration of the event.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

##### THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF NOMENCLATURE.

UPON reading the statement that the *Third International Zoölogical Congress* has appointed an International Commission of five members to study the different codes of nomenclature proposed and adopted in various countries, some zoölogists may immediately draw the conclusion that it is the intention to overturn (or rather to attempt to overturn!) existing and well established practices in nomenclature. One or two persons with whom I have talked upon the subject did, in fact, have this impression. In order to dispel such thoughts from any and all minds in which they may arise, I desire to state definitely that no such plan was contemplated by Geheimrath Schulze (Berlin) when he made his proposition, nor by the Congress when the proposition was adopted. Furthermore, from what I know personally of the men on the Commission, it can be positively stated that such an idea is very far from their thoughts.

Every one will admit that there are points in the International Code upon which differences of opinion exist; that different interpretations of the code have been made in various countries; that the *arrangement* of the code has been criticized in some quarters; that some of the translations of the code have not been all that could be desired in the way of exactness; and that in various countries differences of opinion exist upon some points which are not included in the present international code.

The objects Prof. Schulze had in making his proposition were to submit all of these points to investigation by an international committee; to have an authorized edition of the code in English, French and German; to add points which had been omitted; to better the code where this can be done; and to embody the results of this study in a report to be presented to the next International Congress.

I would further call attention to the fact that the report of this commission is not final, but

is subject to the action of the next International Congress, to be held in Great Britain in 1898.

A large edition of the International Code has been issued by the Société Zoologique de France for general distribution, and any working zoölogist may obtain a copy of it by addressing the Secretary, Prof. Raphael Blanchard, 32 rue du Luxembourg, Paris, France.

Should any American zoölogist have any suggestions to make in regard to additions, amendments, etc., to this Code I request him to communicate with me before September 1, 1896.

There are a few points in this Code with which perhaps the majority of American zoölogists are not in sympathy. 'The majority of American zoölogists,' however, does not mean 'the majority of the zoölogists of the world,' and while it is beyond question that a view expressed by the majority of workers in this country will receive the utmost consideration, we must not forget that the next International Congress cannot be expected to repeal the present International Code and adopt an American, French, German or English Code in its place, but must stand by international decision upon all questions in regard to which differences of opinion exist.

It is my intention to request the National Academy, The Smithsonian Institution, the Society of American Naturalists, the American Ornithologists' Union, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Royal Society of Canada, each to appoint one of its members as a representative upon an Advisory Committee to which I may submit for approval or disapproval all of the questions which I intend to support in the meetings of the International Commission, and with which I may advise regarding concessions to be made or requested in those points upon which American opinion differs from the views held in some of the other countries. It is needless to add that my vote in the International Commission will be determined by the action of this Advisory Committee, should the occasion arise that my personal opinion upon any particular point differs from the opinion of the gentlemen appointed to advise me.

CH. WARDELL STILES,

*B. A. I., U. S. Dept. Agriculture.*

WASHINGTON, D. C.

#### KATYDID ORCHESTRATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: I am interested in the notes lately published in SCIENCE on this subject, and should be very glad to have the insect described by Mr. Gould identified, for my own information. This is because, during two summers spent at Cranberry, in the mountains of North Carolina, not far from Roan Mountain, I continually heard the same music Mr. Gould describes, and have no doubt that my insect and his are the same. Supposing it to be, of course, well known to entomologists, I preserved no specimens, and only remember being struck by the very small size of those I handled. It is certainly not the common Katydid, *Cyrtophyllum concavum*. Aside from the almost deafening noise which seemed, as it were, to make the trees tremble, what struck me most was the punctuality with which the orchestra tuned up at a particular time near sunset, the regularity with which the performance continued through the night, and its conclusion at a certain hour in the morning. The inhabitants of the place also speak of the seasonal periodicity of this insect, which is so perfect that they draw certain weather prophecies from its acceleration or retardation of two or three days.

ELLIOTT COUES.

WASHINGTON, 1726 Street.

November 2, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The antiphonal rhythm of two 'orchestras' of Katydid is so very familiar to me that I was rather surprised to read of it in Dr. Gould's letter of September 20, supposing, as I did, that what I regarded as such an ordinary occurrence must, of course, have been noted and explained by entomologists. But the letters of Prof. Smith and Mr. Scudder in your issue of November 1st imply that such is not the case. My testimony, therefore, may be of some interest. Dr. Gould's description fits exactly the phenomena noticed evening after evening at my home in Montclair, N. J. The 'antiphony' is often very regular for several minutes, sometimes stopping short and again becoming broken into irregular individual stridulation at the end. I have sometimes thought that the exact unison of movement