

LECTURES IN NATURAL SCIENCES AT  
CAMBRIDGE

THE following lectures in Natural Science will be given at Trinity, St. John's, Christ's, and Sidney Sussex Colleges, during Michaelmas Term 1874.

*On Electricity and Magnetism.*—By Mr. Trotter, Trinity College, in Lecture Room No. 11. (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, at 11, commencing Friday, Oct. 16.) Students desiring to attend this course are requested to call upon Mr. Trotter at his rooms on or before Thursday, Oct. 15. Students of Colleges other than Trinity, St. John's, Christ's, and Sidney, can be admitted on payment of a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.*

*On Elementary Organic Chemistry.*—By Mr. Main, St. John's College. (Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, at 12, in St. John's College Laboratory, commencing Tuesday, Oct. 20.) Instruction in Practical Chemistry will also be given. Students desiring this instruction are requested to call upon Mr. Main on or before Monday, Oct. 19. For members of Trinity, St. John's, Christ's, and Sidney, the fee for the lectures in Chemistry is 10*s.* 6*d.*, and for instruction in Practical Chemistry 1*l.* 1*s.* per term; for others the fees are respectively 1*l.* 1*s.* and 2*l.* 2*s.* per term.

*On Palæontology.*—(The Protozoa and Cœlenterata.) By Mr. Bonney, St. John's College. (Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 9, commencing Thursday, Oct. 15.)

*On Geology.*—(For the Natural Sciences Tripos. Preliminary matter and Petrology.) By Mr. Bonney, St. John's College. (Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 10, commencing Wednesday, Oct. 14.) A course on Physical Geology will be given in the Lent Term, and on Stratigraphical Geology in the Easter Term. Papers will be given to Questionists every Saturday at 11, but the first paper will be set on Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 11, when arrangements will be made for further instruction, should it be required. Students desiring to attend any of these courses are requested to call upon Mr. Bonney on or before Wednesday, Oct. 14. Students of other Colleges can be admitted to these lectures on payment of a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* for the course. An Elementary Course will be given in the Lent and Easter Terms.

*On Vegetable Morphology.*—(For the Natural Sciences Tripos.) By Mr. Hicks, Sidney College. (Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at 11, in the Taylor Lecture Room, beginning on Tuesday, Nov. 3.) The lectures during this term will be on the Morphology of Phanerogamia. For members of the above Colleges the fee for this course is 1*l.* 1*s.*; for others 2*l.* 2*s.*

*A Course of Practical Physiology and Histology.*—By the Trinity Prælector in Physiology (Dr. Michael Foster) at the New Museums. Lectures on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, at 10, commencing Tuesday, Oct. 20. Fees for the Practical Class, 3*l.* 3*s.*; for the course of two terms, 5*l.* 5*s.* This course is intended for those who have gone through a course of Elementary Biology similar to that given last Easter Term.

Also a short course of lectures on the *Physiology of Nutrition*, on Wednesdays, at 10, commencing Oct. 21.

*On the Comparative Anatomy of Invertebrata.*—By Mr. Martin, Christ's College. (Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 12, commencing Friday, Oct. 16.)

NOTES

AMONG the Fellowships at Trinity College, Cambridge, awarded on Saturday last, one was given for proficiency in Natural Science. Although thrown open to the whole University, it was gained by a member of Trinity College, Mr. Francis M. Balfour, B. A., the circumstances of whose election are worthy of notice. The Fellowships at Trinity College are awarded according to the results of an examination held specially for the purpose, and not as in other Colleges, according to the

positions gained by the candidates in the University Examinations or Triposes. The Natural Science Fellowship was no exception to this custom: a special examination in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology, was held in order to test the proficiency of the candidates. But it had previously been announced that the examiners were prepared in estimating the proficiency of the candidates to take into consideration records of original work in the shape of published memoirs or unpublished dissertations, and to be guided by the value of these as well as by the ordinary examination answers. In other words, the authorities of Trinity College formally declared that they were prepared to bestow a Fellowship as a reward for, and thus as an encouragement to, research. Mr. Balfour's success in his candidature was, we understand, due to the value attached to the original memoirs, chiefly on embryological subjects, sent in by him, as well for their actual worth as for the future of which they gave promise. We congratulate him and the Natural Science School at Cambridge on the result. The deadening influence of the examination system at Cambridge, great as it is in mathematics, bears with fearful effect on all Natural Science studies. The cramming necessary for success in a competitive examination such as the Natural Science Tripos, renders original research for the time being impossible, and goes far to destroy all power for it in the future. Mr. Balfour had the courage to commence original work before he had taken his degree. In spite of warnings that he was endangering his position in the Tripos, he chose the better part, and spent in research the time he might have frittered away in cramming for an examination. Incidentally he has thereby won a Fellowship. We trust that his example will be followed by other students, and the example of Trinity College by other Colleges, so that henceforward on the one hand early research may be the rule at Cambridge instead of the exception, and on the other the injurious effects of the Fellowship system may be lessened as much as possible.

THE following changes are proposed to be made in the Council of the Mathematical Society for the ensuing session:—Dr. Hirst, F.R.S., the retiring president, will become a vice-president, and be succeeded by Prof. H. J. Stephen Smith, F.R.S. Mr. Spottiswoode, F.R.S., having served his term of office as vice-president, will become an ordinary member of the Council. The vacancies caused by the retirement of Prof. Henrici, F.R.S., and Mr. J. J. Walker, have been filled up by the selection of Mr. R. B. Hayward and Mr. W. D. Niven. The Society has nearly completed its tenth year, and has had as presidents De Morgan, Sylvester, Cayley, Spottiswoode, and Hirst. It would, we think, be difficult to find more fitting representatives of the mathematical ability of this country, should the day ever arrive, in this day of congresses, for holding an International Congress of Mathematicians. When the Society started into existence on Jan. 16, 1865, there were, we believe, not more than two similar societies in the world; now, each year adds to the ever-lengthening chain. It is a singular and sad coincidence that as the present president on his accession to the chair had to announce to the members the great loss the Society had sustained through the death of the lamented Dr. Clebsch, so, too, as he vacates his office will it be his last task to tell of the decease of Dr. Otto Hesse; though in this sad case mathematicians have to mourn the loss of a man full of years and honours. The Society is thus left without a representative of the great body of German mathematicians in its list of foreign members. The election of the new Council will take place on Nov. 12. The above-named changes are those suggested by the present Council, and will be submitted in the usual way to all the members of the Society for their approval.

ANOTHER College for Working Women is about to be opened. Its inaugural meeting is announced for Friday evening, at No. 5, Fitzroy Street, Fitzroy Square. The committee aims