

and M. Hue. The views on the alignments were varied; they were *ex-votos*, and they were connected with the Trojan war; but the majority hesitated to express an opinion. M. le Rouzic, Dr. Baudouin and others, subject to more extensive researches in Brittany and elsewhere, were disposed to connect them with a solar cult. Among other papers, Dr. Atgier discussed the Megalithic enclosures, and M. de Clérabant galgals, or cairns, in Indre-et-Loire.

M. de Villemereuil proposed a motion on the State protection of megaliths. Speaking generally, it may be said that both the discussions and the numerous papers were of much interest, and the meetings were attended by more than a hundred members.

The following three days were taken up with excellently organised excursions; weather, vehicles, meals, and speeches, all were of the best, and more than a hundred took part in each excursion. The first day was consecrated to the Gulf of Morbihan, and among the objects visited were the cromlechs of Kergonan, the tumulus of Gavr'inis, and the magnificent dolmens of Locmariaquer, including the largest known menhir. On the second day visits were paid to the little-known alignments of St. Pierre, in Quiberon, and of Erdeven, and to the dolmens of Roch-en-Aud, Crocuno, Rondosse, &c.

The third day was reserved for Carnac and its marvellous alignments Menec, Kermario, and Kerlescant.

Worthy of special mention were the visits to the tumulus of Moustoir-Carnac, and to the Miln Museum, where the secretary of the congress paid a well-deserved tribute to the brilliant efforts of the regretted founder and his enthusiastic and devoted pupil, M. le Rouzic. Finally, a visit was rendered to the splendid tumulus of St. Michel-Carnac, so well cared for by M. d'Ault du Mesnil, president of the Megalithic Monuments Commission, who himself acted as guide.

In the course of the three days numerous speeches were made by foreign members, who were roused to enthusiasm alike by the monuments and by the organisation of the gathering. Mention must be made of the utterances of M. Rutot, on the Gulf of Morbihan; of Dr. Baudouin, on submerged megaliths in Brittany and Vendée, and on the technique of restorations; and of the erudition of M. de Mortillet, as well as of the demonstrations of MM. d'Ault du Mesnil and le Rouzic; the latter also spoke in the Miln Museum on the alignments of Carnac, and on his researches on the spot.

As the scene of the next congress in 1907 Abbeville was suggested by more than one speaker. Before the congress separated, the healths of M. de Mortillet, Dr. Baudouin, and M. Giroux were proposed in eulogistic terms. As M. Rutot said, a society that has been able to accomplish so much in its infancy will do much more in its maturer years, and this was equally the opinion of the foreign savants who attended the meeting.

#### A NEW SPECIMEN OF THE OKAPI.

IN a letter from the Congo Free State, published in the *Times* of September 26, Major P. H. G. Powell-Cotton states that he has succeeded in obtaining the skeleton and skin of a fine male okapi. This animal was killed at Makala, in the Ituri forest, by the native hunter Agukki, who shot the two specimens taken to Europe by Dr. David. After careful inquiry, Major Powell-Cotton is unable to satisfy himself that any European has hitherto killed an okapi. A Swiss official named Jeannet, in the employ of the Congo Government, was, however, in 1905 shown one of these animals by a native as it stood in thick covert, where it was shot by the latter. This the writer believes to be the first living okapi (or "kangi," as it is called by the Makala natives) seen by a European.

According to information furnished by the Mambutti (pigmy), the okapi is generally a solitary animal, the two members of a pair invariably feeding apart, although, together with their single calf, they may frequent the same section of the forest. The calf, which is born in May, is left hidden in covert by the female, who returns to it at intervals for feeding purposes. Hearing and smell are very acute in the okapi, so that the sound of an axe or the faintest scent of man drives it from its feeding grounds

into the depths of the forest. Even when feeding it is restless, and it seldom reposes long in the same lair. In the Ituri forest these animals avoid swampy ground, and always drink from clear running streams. During rain they seek shelter in the densest thickets or even under an abandoned roof, and it is at such times that they are most usually seen by the natives.

In the Ituri forest the okapi does not eat the giant leaves of *Sarcophrynium arnoldianum*, which Major Powell-Cotton believes to be the plant alluded to by Captain Boyd-Alexander in his account of the animal in the Welle district. Specimens of four different kinds of leaves which form the food of the Ituri forest okapi are being brought home for identification.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE honorary degree of LL.D. has been conferred upon Sir Thomas Barlow and Prof. C. S. Sherrington, F.R.S., by Harvard University.

At a Convocation of the University of Durham, held on September 29, the honorary degree of D.Sc. was conferred upon Sir William White, K.C.B., and Prof. Lebour.

PROF. WIEN, who occupies the chair of physics at Würzburg, informs us that he has declined the invitation to succeed the late Prof. Drude as professor of physics in the University of Berlin, because the Prussian Government is unable to undertake the erection of a modern physical laboratory there.

PROF. E. A. MINCHIN, F.R.S., the recently appointed professor of protozoology in the University of London, will deliver his inaugural lecture on "The Scope and Problems of Protozoology" on November 15. The University library, in which is included the Goldsmiths' Company's library of economic literature, will be opened by the Chancellor on the afternoon of Friday, October 26.

THE new calendar of University College, London, contains an interesting outline of the history of the college by Dr. G. Carey Foster, F.R.S. The contribution deals with the growth and development of the University of London as a teaching university, and the part played by University College in that development. Particulars are given of the post-graduate courses offered this session in all faculties, and of the original work produced in the college during last session. The number of research and post-graduate students last year was 134, as against 119 in the previous session.

THE first volume of the report for 1904 of the Commissioner of the United States Bureau of Education has at last been issued. A gratifying feature noted in the reports of the agricultural and mechanical colleges is the largely increased aid granted them by the several States and Territories. This aid amounted for the year to about 1,131,000., an increase of more than 200,000. over the amount for the preceding year. A chapter of more than a hundred pages is devoted to the regulations relating to pensions and insurance in all German universities. The data were collected by Prof. Julius Hatscheck, of Heidelberg, for Dr. Theodore Marburg, trustee of Johns Hopkins University, and by the latter presented to the U.S. Commissioner of Education. It appears that in Germany membership in any teaching body means, *nolens volens*, the payment of regular contributions to the pension fund of that body, except in elementary schools, where the State assumes the entire burden of pension payment. Dr. John W. Hoyt contributes a detailed account of the University of Paris during the Middle Ages. Among other chapters of interest in the report, which runs to 1176 pages, may be mentioned two on education at the St. Louis Exposition and one on higher education in England as affected by the Act of 1902, in which prominence is given to Prof. Sadler's reports to various county councils.

At the University of Leeds on Monday, the inaugural address of the new session was delivered by Sir James Crichton-Browne upon the subject of "Universities and Medical Education." In the course of his remarks, he