

applications made after Wednesday, the 5th of August, by persons residing in Dublin. . . . The arrangements made by the reception committee were excellent. . . . Accommodations were provided for a great number of guests within the walls of the College, and arrangements made for their breakfasting and dining together in the College Hall, by which the intercourse between the members has been greatly facilitated. . . ."

On Saturday, August 8, the Examination Hall of Trinity College was crowded. "Sir John Ross, Sir John Franklin, Dr. Coulter, the recent explorer of Mexico, Dr. Dalton, Dr. Roget, Professors Babbage, Powell, Murchison and many other eminent men, were among the crowd, evidently enduring some inconvenience, that they might gratify the curiosity they had excited. . . . In the list of names of members admitted on Saturday were to be found men of every creed, sect and party—Protestant clergymen, Catholic priests, and dissenting ministers—all anxious to gain a respite from agitating controversies, and enjoy a week's repose on the neutral ground of science. Visitors streamed into Dublin by the packet boats on Monday morning but by about eleven o'clock the whole of the Sections were in working order. The General Meeting of the Association took place in the Rotunda where Dr. Lloyd delivered his address and Prof. Hamilton read a report. The last function was a farewell dinner given by the Provost and Fellows of Trinity College to the Lord Lieutenant, Lord Musgrave, and 300 of the members of the Association. Just before the dinner Lord Musgrave conferred a knighthood on Hamilton, remarking in his speech, "This is an exercise of one of those prerogatives of royalty, of which I am here the representative, most grateful to myself—most in unison I feel assured with the wishes of that august sovereign on whose behalf I act. . . . This act does not so much confer distinction, as place the royal, and therefore national, stamp upon that distinction, which has been acquired by personal qualifications and individual executions.' . . ."

In his summing up of the meeting, the correspondent of the *Athenaeum* wrote: "The meeting of the Association is now over and before we proceed to draw up a record of its proceedings we must say a few words on the general results of the week, and the impression left on our minds. On former occasions hospitality has been shown by the residents of the place of the assemblage to the way-faring visitors, and the business has preserved the 'even tenor of its way'; but in Dublin, notwithstanding the unusual quantity and quality of the scientific communications, business has been positively perplexed by the joyousness and festivities of the occasion. . . . Setting aside the distraction of mind incidental to the crowding together so much business . . . the vast number of all classes and pretensions who have joined the Association, and flocked to its halls, cannot have but disturbed the march of the proceedings. Imagine the Rotunda—a room capable of accommodating from 1,500 to 2,000 individuals—thronged to excess on some of the hottest evenings of this hot and cometary season: the ladies flirting and fanning; the gentlemen casting one eye upon Science and another upon Beauty; and the whole (saving the reader's presence) mopping and puffing and ready to drop with exhaustion and fatigue. . . . Even in the Sections themselves, the scientific men were not left in peace; both sexes were eager to attend them; and the ladies, as they could not be

in the whole at once, made the best of their case by crowding in shoals to that particular section where the business was of the most abstract and recondite character. . . . The admission of ladies at the Sectional meetings, in direct opposition to the standing rule of the Association, is so manifestly calculated to destroy the efficiency of the Society, that we trust that there will be no repetition of this impropriety".

The treasurer of the Association in his report said that the receipts of the preceding year in Edinburgh were £1,626, while in Dublin they amounted to £1,750. It was very gratifying to be able to state that grants for the advancement of science of £1,700 had been placed at the disposal of the committee in 1835.

## Educational Topics and Events

CAMBRIDGE.—F. R. Parrington, of Sidney Sussex College, has been appointed University demonstrator in zoology, and Dr. R. Knox and Dr. G. P. McCullagh have been appointed University demonstrators in pathology.

The Marmaduke Shield Scholarship for 1935 has been awarded to G. W. Harris, of Emmanuel College.

The offer of the Rev. J. H. T. Perkins, to give to the University a sum for the establishment of a Michael Perkins Fund, the interest of which is to be employed in making grants to young graduates working upon the natural history of animals, has been gratefully accepted.

DR. MARGARET S. SMITH has been appointed lecturer in agricultural chemistry and physics at the Horticultural College, Swanley, Kent, and will take up her duties in September.

THE University of Durham Act, 1935, which has now received the Royal Assent, sets up the following body as the University of Durham Commissioners for making Statutes for the University and its constituent divisions and colleges: The Rev. F. H. Dudden (chairman); Countess Grey; Sir W. Ross Barker; Prof. J. H. Priestley; Mr. C. Williams; Dr. G. R. Murray; Dr. T. F. Sibly; and Dr. A. Wood. Mr. A. C. Dawes will act as Secretary to the Commissioners.

THE New South Wales Ministry of Public Instruction in its last annual report gives information on the progress of its system of correspondence teaching, a system which some authorities in America would adopt in certain sparsely populated areas. The average enrolment of pupils taught by correspondence was 5,300 in primary and 210 in secondary grades, and the system, begun fifteen years ago, is reported to be still meeting with marked success. The provision of secondary education up to the intermediate standard was a new development, the outlook of which is promising. In each section of the primary department a special class of backward pupils receive special treatment. A weekly half-hour broadcast from the correspondence school is a feature said to be much appreciated and is used for answering questions. Associated with the system are voluntary donations by the pupils, amounting up to date to more than a thousand pounds, towards certain charities for the benefit of children.