

A careful consideration of the details of the expenditure has led the Committee to the conclusion that in order to enable Mr. Moore to successfully lead another expedition for two seasons, and to accomplish the above-stated objects, a sum of not less than 5000*l.* will be required. The Committee have already received encouraging offers of support, including one of 1000*l.* from a gentleman connected with the commercial and political interests of British Africa. They point out, however, that the results to be obtained will increase almost in the ratio of the square of the initial expenditure; and in a private circular, which has been issued, the members of the Committee appeal to those who feel interest in the objects of the expedition, for assistance in carrying out an enterprise which is not only of the highest scientific importance, but is also of great significance in securing British influence in a critical region of the African interior.

*UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AND THE  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.*

WE are glad to be able to publish the following text of a resolution adopted by the Council of University College, London, at their session on December 10. The offer contained in the resolution is a noble one; and we hope that the example afforded by it will be followed by other similar institutions, in order that the labour of the Statutory Commission may be simplified.

That a Deputation be appointed to represent to the Statutory Commission that—inasmuch as

(1) University College, London, was founded as the University of London, with the object of providing a complete University education in London of the highest type.

(2) The intention of the founders and benefactors of University College will only be carried out by the incorporation of the College in the University, so that its resources shall still be utilised for the furtherance of the highest educational work and for research.

The Council are prepared to summon a general meeting of the members of the College, and to propose to them that such steps should be taken as may be necessary for placing the site, land, buildings and endowments of the College at the complete disposal of the reconstituted University.

In making this offer the Council do not desire to throw any obstacle in the way of any other institutions in London which may be disposed to place their resources at the disposal of the Governing Body of the University.

It will be necessary in accordance with the precedent afforded by the Universities Act (Oxford and Cambridge) to protect the interests of the existing teachers and executive staff of the College. The existing teachers are, however, to have no claim as such to any rank in the re-constituted University, or to any vested interest other than that they now have in the College.

Special provision will probably have to be made as to the boys' school and its endowments, and perhaps for appropriate buildings on another site being provided for this department of the College work. Arrangements will also have to be made with regard to the Hospital and its funds, of which the College is now the Trustee.

(Signed on behalf of the Council),  
J. GREGORY FOSTER,  
*Acting-Secretary.*

*NOTES.*

PROF. MARSH has been elected a correspondant of the Section of Mineralogy of the Paris Academy of Sciences, in succession to the late Prof. James Hall.

THE Geographical Society of Berlin (*Gesellschaft für Erdkunde zu Berlin*) have sent out a circular inviting the friends and promoters of geography in all countries, and especially the members of geographical societies and cognate scientific bodies, to be present at the seventh International Geographical Congress, to be held in the German capital from Thursday, September 28, to

Wednesday, October 4, 1899. Before the beginning and after the close of the Congress, excursions will be arranged through such parts of Germany as are of interest from the points of view of physical or economic geography. The subjects which are to be discussed at the Congress will be arranged in the following groups: (1) mathematical geography, geodesy, cartography, geophysics; (2) physical geography (geomorphology, oceanology, climatology); (3) biological geography; (4) industrial and commercial geography; (5) ethnology; (6) topical geography, exploring travels; (7) history of geography and of cartography; (8) methodology, school geography, bibliography, orthography of geographical names. According to the usual custom, the English, French, German, and Italian languages will be admitted as languages of the Congress, and all papers must be written in one of them. The latest date for receiving papers is June 1, 1899; and the subjects should be notified by April 1, 1899. All correspondence relating to the Congress should be addressed to the VII. International Geographical Congress, 90 Zimmerstrasse, Berlin, S.W.

DR. CAPITAN has been elected president of the Paris Anthropological Society for 1899.

THE Desmazières prize has been awarded by the Paris Academy of Sciences to Dr. J. B. de Toni for his "*Sylloge Algarum*."

THE Paris correspondent of the *Chemist and Druggist* states that a "Retrospective Museum of the History of Chemistry" is being organised to figure in the Paris Exhibition of 1900. It will comprise objects relative to scientific discoveries and industrial improvements—in fact, everything that can clearly show the successive progress accomplished in the chemical industry and the importance of the discoveries made by French savants. Amongst the objects indicated as admissible are laboratory apparatus, reports on discoveries, portraits of inventors, investigators, and manufacturers, descriptions of processes, products obtained by inventors or in scientific laboratories, drawings, plans, models in relief, &c. Industrial museums, faculties, schools, manufacturers, and private individuals are invited to send a list of articles they may be willing to lend.

A PRIZE of 1000 marks is offered by the Economic Society of Mohrunge, near Königsberg, for the best work on the relations of electricity to living organisms. The work must discuss either fundamentally new phenomena in plant or animal electricity, or, from the point of view of physics, discuss the sources of organic electricity, or its significance for life in general or for certain functions.

VERY little is at present known of the flora of Porto Rico. This is not likely to remain long the case, since the attention of the Americans has been turned to the island. An American citizen, Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, has offered to bear the expense of a botanical expedition to the island by Mr. A. A. Heller, under the auspices of the New York Botanical Garden.

AN informal Committee will shortly meet in Calcutta to consider the reports by the Astronomer Royal and Sir Norman Lockyer, who were recently asked for advice regarding Indian astronomical and solar observatories. The future working of these observatories will be discussed, and Sir James Westland, Messrs. T. Holderness and J. Eliot, and General Strahan, Surveyor-General, will probably be members of the Committee.

IT is announced that the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium has appointed a Commission to consider the following proposal:—"The Royal Academy of Medicine asks the Government to enter into negotiations with foreign Governments with a view to drawing up an International Pharmacopoeia."