

on the understanding that the collection should remain in Lord Walsingham's possession as long as he wished. Now, however, it has been arranged that the collection, consisting at present of about 260,000 specimens, and adding about 45,000 species to the small number (estimated at 4000 species) at present in the British Museum, is to be transferred to the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, early next year. The scientific value of such a collection, containing a very large number of types, can hardly be overestimated. We are glad to learn that the present inadequate staff of the museum is to be increased sufficiently to allow of special attention being given to the collection of micro-lepidoptera. Lord Walsingham has also liberally presented his special library relating to micro-lepidoptera to the museum.

The British Museum has previously benefited largely by Lord Walsingham's liberality. He has presented upwards of 15,000 specimens, including many collected during his tour in California and Oregon in 1870-1. In connection with this journey the museum published in 1879 a work on North American Tortricidæ, forming the fourth volume of the quarto series of "Illustrations of Typical Specimens of Lepidoptera Heterocera in the Collection of the British Museum." In this work, which was illustrated by seventeen coloured plates, Lord Walsingham described a large number of new species collected by himself. He also published a small volume on the "Pterophoridae of California and Oregon," in 1880, illustrated by three coloured plates. Numerous papers containing descriptions of new genera and species of various families of micro-lepidoptera by Lord Walsingham have appeared in various periodicals, especially the Transactions of the Linnean and Zoological Societies, and of the Entomological Society of London (of which his lordship was president in 1889-90), the *Entomologist's Monthly Magazine*, &c.

Lord Walsingham has also presented an interesting collection of British macro-lepidoptera (butterflies and the larger moths), accompanied by specimens of caterpillars, mostly prepared by himself, and about fifty of the cases of British birds in their haunts which form such an attractive series in the Bird Gallery.

In conclusion, we must not omit to record that in addition to these numerous benefactions the museum is indebted to Lord Walsingham for the possession of many large and valuable collections which would not have been obtained except through his interest and assistance.

#### PROF. HILARY BAUERMAN.

THE world of science, and particularly the mining and metallurgical branches, have suffered a severe loss through the death of Prof. H. Bauerman on December 5 from heart failure, after an illness of nearly three months.

Born in 1833, Bauerman entered in 1851, at the age of eighteen, as the first student at "The Government School of Mines and of Science applied to the Arts" (now known as the Royal School of Mines), where he studied under Lyon Playfair, Andrew Ramsay, and Robert Hunt, and particularly under Percy, of whom he was a favourite student, and later a most intimate friend.

During so long and active a life, and starting under such excellent auspices, it is natural that a man of Bauerman's calibre should have passed through a successful and distinguished career, but only those of his more intimate friends who know the work which he actually performed in addition to the immense amount publicly known can appreciate his services to science, and particularly to its technical applications.

His uncompromising attitude on matters where he

believed himself to be right, the misunderstandings caused by the slight deafness which existed during his earlier professional life and continuously increased, and the eccentricities which were part of his personality, and added to his charm, to those who knew him, prevented him from receiving such public honours as were his due. His services as one of the first rank were recognised, however, by the many societies and institutions of which he was a member of council and honorary member, and from which he received so many medals and other marks of appreciation. Among other awards, he received gold medals from the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, and the Iron and Steel Institute, to the latter of which he contributed a series of most important papers.

After leaving the School of Mines in 1853, he studied for three years at the Freiburg Mining Academy, and in 1855 was appointed assistant geologist to the Geological Survey of Great Britain.

His first work abroad extended from 1858 to 1863, when, as geologist to the North American Boundary Commission, he gained immense experience in accurate surveying and geological work, and laid the foundation for the careful discrimination and accuracy which characterised all his later work.

From 1864 to 1888, his professional and governmental work took him to most parts of the world except Australasia, and his enthusiasm enabled him to gain a store of information on matters other than those relating to his actual work, which his prodigious memory and peculiar ability to employ his knowledge at the right moment rendered available to all who applied to him for help, or delighted those who listened to his, often apparently discursive, talk on general subjects. As a professional man and adviser on technical matters, he was pre-eminent in certain circles, but as an author and teacher he was perhaps better known. He was lecturer on metallurgy at the Firth College, Sheffield, in 1883, and succeeded Percy as professor of metallurgy at the Ordnance College, Woolwich, from 1888 to 1906, when he retired from public service, though not from active life.

It would be useless to attempt any enumeration of the public and governmental positions which he filled, but it may be mentioned that he was examiner in both mining and metallurgy for a prolonged period to the Science and Art Department, an examiner to the Civil Service Commission for Inspectors of Mines, and an outside examiner of students for the Royal School of Mines of London, and for the Camborne School of Mines. Both these positions, and many others, he occupied until his death.

His services to science and technology can only be slightly touched upon, but are, to some extent, perpetuated in his works on "Descriptive" and "Systematic Mineralogy" and the "Metallurgy of Iron," in Phillips and Bauerman's "Metallurgy," in the many valuable papers which he read before learned and especially technical societies, in the large number of notes, reviews, &c., which he contributed, often without signature, to the Press, and in the reports of juries at most of the important exhibitions.

Few of the international exhibitions have been carried through without his help, either as advisor or juror, and he was probably the last living man who had contributed to the literature published by the juries at the close of the great 1851 exhibition. He was a member of committee and juror, commonly chairman or president, of the mining or metallurgical section, or both, at most of the British and foreign international exhibitions, and one of his latest contributions consisted in two important papers, read before the Iron and Steel Institute, on metallurgy and iron and steel at the Franco-British Exhibition, 1908.

Through the death of Prof. Bauerman one of the few members of the old school, of which his earliest teacher and greatest friend—Dr. Percy—was a type, has been lost to us; one of the most kindly and sympathetic friends to the younger members of his profession has passed away, and a most intimate companion, mentor, and friend has been lost to the writer. Only those who knew him can realise how great a loss is being experienced by his friends, and by the many councils and committees on which he served, and on which his wide experience of men and things rendered him so valuable.

Bauerman, like most great men, died in harness. Even on the day before his death he was occupied in dictating a review on a scientific work, and a few hours before he passed away peacefully in his sleep he was talking of his past labours and of the future work of the younger generation.

GEORGE T. HOLLOWAY.

#### THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM.

THE Trustees of the British Museum have sent the subjoined correspondence to the *Times*, through Dr. F. G. Kenyon, director and principal librarian of the museum.

House of Commons, December 3, 1909.

Dear Sir Archibald,—At the meeting of the standing committee of the Trustees of the British Museum held on Saturday last at South Kensington, the letters which recently appeared in the *Times* relative to the connection of the Bloomsbury and South Kensington Departments of the British Museum and the relation of their respective Directors were very fully considered. It was unanimously felt that nobody could throw a clearer light upon the matter than yourself; that nobody's voice would be so well listened to; and that nobody's opinion would carry so much weight as your own, if you could be persuaded to give the benefit of your views on the question to your co-Trustees.

I understand that you have recently had occasion to inquire into this matter; may I venture, therefore, to invite you, as one of the Trustees of the British Museum, to be kind enough to inform your co-Trustees of the opinions which you hold upon the subject-matter in question?

If I might venture to suggest, the points upon which it appears to me desirable that we should be informed are (1) whether the Board of Trustees, acting through its standing committee, is in your judgment the best authority for the government of such an institution as the Natural History Departments of the British Museum, and (2) whether, under the existing statutes and rules, the scientific management of the Natural History Museum suffers any detriment from its association with the museum at Bloomsbury.

The Trustees are anxious to be reassured that the management of the Natural History Departments of the British Museum can be usefully, adequately, and properly carried on under the present system, and feel that, as you have recently had the subject before you, and have made special inquiries into it, your judgment upon it would carry special weight.

I may say that, at the meeting of the Trustees on Saturday, November 27, I was instructed by my colleagues to deal with this matter, and I have therefore the less hesitation in approaching you directly upon it.

I beg to remain, yours faithfully,

JAMES W. LOWTHER.

To Sir A. Geikie, F.R.S., Shepherd's Down,  
Haslemere.

Shepherd's Down, Haslemere, December 7, 1909.

Dear Mr. Speaker,—In reply to your letter of 3rd inst. I have pleasure in stating, for the information of my co-Trustees of the British Museum, the opinion which I have been led to form on the questions you refer to me. I may say that the agitation on this subject, which has been carried on, fitfully but persistently, in the public Press for many years, supported as it has been by some well-known

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men of science, created in my mind the impression that there was probably some ground for the complaints that had been brought forward. But not until recently have I had occasion to make a careful investigation of the facts of the case. The result of this inquiry has been to convince me that the agitation has no substantial justification, but has arisen from misapprehension or ignorance, and that if the actual state of the matter had been realised no agitation ought ever to have been started.

The allegation so constantly made that the Director of the Natural History Museum is under much more than the merely nominal control of the Director and Principal Librarian at Bloomsbury is without any real foundation. It has probably been suggested by the fact that, as both establishments are administered by one Board of Trustees, the financial business of the whole institution is entrusted to a single accounting officer. In this obviously convenient and economical arrangement the supervision has been assigned to the Director and Principal Librarian, to whom, by Act of Parliament, every other officer of the British Museum is subordinate. But he has no power whatsoever of interference in the scientific work or management of the Natural History Museum. The duties and responsibilities of the Director of the Natural History Departments at South Kensington, as laid down in the statutes and rules, are precisely the same as those of the Director and Principal Librarian in regard to the various departments at Bloomsbury. Each of these officers is charged with the independent control of the museum and staff over which he presides. Thus the subordination of the one Director to the other is, for all practical purposes, non-existent.

I cannot conceive of a scheme which, under a board of managers, could more fully secure liberty of initiation and action in each of the two establishments. Both Directors are in immediate touch with the Board of Trustees. This board is not a bureau of secretaries and clerks in a Government department, but a body of cultivated gentlemen, full of sympathy with the objects of the great institution committed to them, anxious to promote its interests, and ready at all times to seek the best expert advice in matters which may lie beyond their personal cognisance.

It is, of course, not to be expected that any set of regulations, how carefully soever they may have been framed, will provide for every contingency that can arise from the effects of personal idiosyncrasies. In the conduct of any public institution it must be assumed that the duties assigned to the various officers of the staff will be discharged with courtesy, good feeling, and loyalty to the service. Where, unhappily, these fundamental qualities prove deficient, friction is not unlikely to arise; but any instance of it can be dealt with by the governing authority, and should not imply the necessity for a revision of the statutes, still less for a reorganisation of the institution. After a fairly wide experience, I have no hesitation in asserting that I know of no establishment, either in this or any other country, wherein more favourable conditions have been provided for harmonious and effective cooperation in scientific work than have been devised by the Board of Trustees of the British Museum for the administration of the important departments committed to their care.

I remain, yours very faithfully,

ARCH. GEIKIE.

To the Right Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons.

#### NOTES.

WE announce with deep regret that Dr. Ludwig Mond, F.R.S., died on Saturday, December 11, at seventy years of age.

WE regret to see the announcement that Sir Alfred Jones, K.C.M.G., who rendered valuable services to science by the share he took in the foundation and endowment of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, died on December 13, at sixty-four years of age.

MR. W. M. TATTERSALL has been appointed keeper of the Manchester Museum in succession to Dr. W. E. Hoyle.