THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

We are able to publish through the courtesy of the President of the National Academy of Sciences, Dr. Wolcott Gibbs, the correspondence arranging for the conference of Scientific Societies held at Wiesbaden on the 9th and 10th of October, 1899. We hope to be able to publish later through the courtesy of Professor H. P. Bowditch, delegate from the National Academy of Sciences, an account of the Conference based on the official proceedings. It is scarcely necessary to call attention to the great importance of the plans of the Conference for the advancement of science and for the good understanding between nations to which the advancement of science is largely contributing.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY, BURLINGTON HOUSE,
LONDON, W., April 14, 1899.

SIR: The Royal Society has frequently had occasion to take action in respect to scientific undertakings calling for the cooperation of several countries, and undertakings of this nature show a tendency to increase. The experience of the Society has lead to the belief that it would be very advantageous to the interests of science generally if some machinery could be devised, by means of which suggestions made for international cooperation in scientific enquiries could be thoroughly discussed by the leading men of science from a purely scientific point of view, before definite proposals are made with a view to official action by the Governments of the countries concerned.