THE VAN'T HOFF CELEBRATION.

A QUARTER of a century has passed since Van’t Hoff obtained the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. This event was celebrated on December 22, 1899, in Rotterdam, by his students and a number of guests, including some of the leading men of science. An extra volume of the Zeitschrift für physikalische Chemie, containing investigations by those who, at some time, had worked with Van’t Hoff, was published and presented to him on this occasion.

What does this mean; why has such an unusual tribute been paid to this comparatively young man?

There is nothing more inspiring to workers in the field of science, than the lives and works of those who are the leaders of modern science. Let us turn to the biographical sketch of Van’t Hoff, by Ostwald, which serves as a preface to the 'Jubelband.'

Van’t Hoff is the son of a Dutch physician, and was born in Rotterdam, August 30, 1852. He received his early training at a high school in his native city, and at seventeen entered the Polytechnic Institute in Delft. He then studied at Leiden, with Kekulé at Bonn, and with Würzt in Paris. He made the doctor’s degree at the University of Utrecht, on the 22d of December, 1874. In 1876 he became docent at the veterinary school in Utrecht, and in 1877 was called to the University in Amsterdam. In 1894