

# SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1900.

THE IMPERIAL PHYSICO-TECHNICAL INSTITUTION IN CHARLOTTENBURG.\*

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## I. HISTORICAL.

THROUGH the courtesy of Professor Kohlrausch, President of the Reichsanstalt, and the Curatorium or governing body of the institution, the writer was accorded the privilege of working in the Physikalisch-Technische Reichsanstalt as a scientific guest during the last few months of 1899. An unusual opportunity was thus afforded of learning rather intimately the methods employed and the results accomplished in this famous institution for the conduct of physical research, the supply of standards and the verification of instruments of precision for scientific and technical purposes.

It is well-known that the Reichsanstalt is situated in Charlottenburg, a suburb of Berlin just beyond the renowned Tiergarten. The buildings occupy an entire square, the larger part of which, valued at 500,000 Marks, was the gift of Dr. Werner Siemens. In making this gift, which was offered in land or money at the option of the government, Dr. Siemens declared that he had in mind only the object of serving his fatherland and of demonstrating his love for science, to which he avowed himself entirely indebted for his rise in life.

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

\* A paper presented at the 146th meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, New York, September 26, 1900.

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