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Friday, May 15, 1903.

CONTENTS:
Medical Education in the United States: Dr. Frank Billings .......................... 761

The Rare Earth Crusade—What it portends, Scientifically and Technically: Professor
Chas. Baskerville .................................. 772

Scientific Books:—
Chemical Text-books: Professor Jas. Lewis Howe. Zoological Text-books: Professor
V. L. Kellogg. Grasset's L'Hypnotisme et la suggestion: J. J. ...................... 781

Scientific Journals and Articles............................................. 789

Societies and Academies:—
The Philosophical Society of Washington: Charles K. Wead. The Biological Society
Mendenhall. Section of Geology and Mineralogy of the New York Academy of
Sciences: George I. Finlay. Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society: Professor Chas.
Baskerville ............................................. 790

Discussion and Correspondence:—
Ecology: Dr. H. W. Wiley. Are Stamens and Pistils Sexual Organs? Professor
Conway MacMillan. Patagonian Geology: Professor A. E. Ortmann ................. 794

Current Notes on Meteorology:—
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India; Dunn's 'The Weather'; Notes:
Professor R. DeC. Ward .................................. 796

General James T. Stratton: Ront E. C. Stearns .................................... 797

Scientific Notes and News ......................... 797

University and Educational News ............. 799

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MEDICAL EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES.*

One of the chief objects of the organization of the American Medical Association
was the elevation of the standard of medical education in the United States. In the
president's address, the Father of the Association, Dr. N. S. Davis, stated that 'the
purpose of the organization was the improvement of our system of medical education
and the direct advancement of medical science and practice.'† That medical education
in that day was defective, as recognized by the founders of the Association,
is shown by the report of the Committee on Medical Education in the year 1850.
The committee said, in part, as follows: "Medical education is defective because
there are too many medical schools; the teachers are too few. There are too many
students. The quantity of medicine taught is too limited; the quality too superficial,
and the mode of bestowal of the honors of medicine too profuse and too unrestricted."

* President's address, delivered at the fifty-fourth annual session of the American Medical
Association, at New Orleans, May 5-8, 1903.