

SCIENCE

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CONTENTS

<i>The Joseph Leidy Lecture:—</i>		
<i>Introduction:</i> PROVOST EDGAR F. SMITH ..	809	
<i>A Tribute to Joseph Leidy:</i> PROFESSOR CHARLES S. MINOT	809	
<i>Heredity and Microscopical Research:</i> PROFESSOR EDMUND B. WILSON	814	
<i>Chancellor Jordan and President Branner</i> ...	827	
<i>The Pension Plan of the American Museum of Natural History</i>	827	
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	828	
<i>University and Educational News</i>	833	
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>		
<i>The California Academy of Sciences:</i> DR. A. L. KROEBER. <i>University Life in Idaho:</i> PRESIDENT JAMES A. MACLEAN. <i>The Cottrell Process for Depositing Dust and Smoke:</i> PROFESSOR W. S. FRANKLIN. <i>A Local Magnetic Storm:</i> PROFESSOR FRANCIS E. NIPHEE. <i>Plus and Minus:</i> PROFESSOR GEORGE BRUCE HALSTED		833
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>		
<i>Abderhalden's Schutzfermente des tierischen Organismus:</i> DR. J. AUER. <i>Given's Methods for Sugar Analysis:</i> DR. F. G. WIECHMANN. <i>Daugherty's Economic Zoology:</i> PROFESSOR HERBERT OSBORN		837
<i>The Mineral Wealth of Canada:</i> DR. M. E. WADSWORTH	839	
<i>Special Articles:—</i>		
<i>Artificial Parthenogenesis in Fucus:</i> DR. J. B. OVERTON. <i>On the Colloid-chemical Action of the Diuretic Salts:</i> PROFESSOR MARTIN H. FISCHER and ANNE SYKES		841
<i>Societies and Academies:—</i>		
<i>The American Mathematical Society:</i> PROFESSOR F. N. COLE		845

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THE JOSEPH LEIDY LECTURE

INTRODUCTION BY THE PROVOST OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOSEPH LEIDY was a son of the University of Pennsylvania. As a token of reverence and affection his devoted nephew and namesake, Joseph Leidy, Jr., has generously endowed the Joseph Leidy Memorial Lectureship for the extension of scientific knowledge through the medium of lectures by eminent specialists.

To-night, we meet to inaugurate this foundation. Of Dr. Leidy, the great student and teacher, whom many of us knew and deeply honored, I would say:

“The wisest man could ask no more of fate
Than to be simple, modest, manly, true,
Safe from the many, honored by the few;
Nothing to count in world, or church, or state,
But inwardly in secret to be great;
To feel mysterious nature ever new,
To touch, if not to grasp, her endless clue,
And learn by each discovery how to wait,
To widen knowledge and escape the praise;
Wisely to teach because more wise to learn;
To toil for science, not to draw men's gaze,
But for her love of self denial stern;
That such a man could spring from our decays
Fans the soul's nobler faith until it burn.”

EDGAR F. SMITH

A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH LEIDY¹

JOSEPH LEIDY was a Philadelphian by his birth, by his career and by his death, and no citizen of this metropolis has more deserved public honor than he.

Leidy was born September 9, 1823, and died April 30, 1891. His first scientific paper was published in 1845, and his last

¹ Opening address for the Joseph Leidy Foundation delivered at the University of Pennsylvania, April 17, 1913.

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