

service to be rendered in the establishment of a school of medicine, the chief work of which shall be investigation."

The company then adjourned to the site chosen for the Laboratories, where the corner stones of the buildings were successively laid with appropriate ceremonial and addresses. Head Professor John M. Coulter gave the address at the foundation of the Botanical Laboratory; Associate Professor Jacques Loeb, at the site of the Physiological Laboratory; the address written by Head Professor Henry H. Donaldson was read by Assistant Professor E. O. Jordan at the site of the Anatomical Laboratory, and Head Professor Charles O. Whitman spoke at the Zoological foundation.

In the evening the University gave a dinner to Miss Helen Culver and the men of science present from other universities. Short speeches were made by Profs. Goodale, Barnes, Forbes, Burrill, McMurrich, MacBride and Holmes representing their respective institutions. Profs. Whitman, Loeb, Jordan and Coulter spoke in behalf of the biological faculties and Profs. Chamberlin and Judson on behalf of other departments. Finally President Harper told very simply the story of the gift, of its unexpectedness, of its coming entirely unsolicited and the manner in which it relieved the pressing wants and satisfied the most sanguine hopes of the departments concerned. At last late in the evening he announced that Miss Culver would say a few words. Then with the guests standing in their places at the tables, Miss Culver expressed very quietly her pleasure and satisfaction in being able to do what she could for the cause of higher education, and modestly claimed for herself only the credit of being an agent in carrying out what she felt would have been the desires of the man whose name the laboratories are to bear, Mr. C. J. Hull.

SCIENCE AT OXFORD.

WE called attention in a recent number of this JOURNAL to an important article in *Nature* on the position of science at Oxford. Prof. E. Ray Lankester, Linacre professor of zoology at Oxford, has addressed the following letter on the subject to *Nature*:

"Will you allow me a few lines in which to express my entire agreement with your recent article on this subject, if only to emphasize the fact that I am not the author of the article, and that the opinions there expressed are not those of an isolated individual. The reason for the comparative neglect of natural science at Oxford is that, however well-disposed some individuals may be, the college tutors and lecturers as a rule dislike it. They dislike it for two reasons: First, because it cannot be taught in the college parlors called lecture rooms; and second, because they are, as a rule, ignorant—owing to their own defective education—of the nature and scope of the immense field of study comprised under the head 'natural science.' They do not know either the enormous educational value of natural science, or its vital importance to our national life and development.

"And lastly, if they did know, there is no conceivable motive which could operate so as to induce them to sacrifice some of the rewards and educational domination, which are at present enjoyed by the long-established classical and historical studies, to newer lines of work in which the present beneficiaries and their academic offspring can have no share.

"The situation is a 'dead-lock,' and only an intelligent Parliamentary Commission (if such is possible) can put matters on to a fair and healthy basis. Probably the scandal of the present paralysis of our beloved Oxford will have to become even greater and more outrageous than it is at this moment, before the necessary remedy is applied.

"But happily the vitality of Oxford is indestructible. The misused and monopolized resources of Oxford will assuredly some day be devoted to the true purposes of a great university."

GENERAL.

THE authorities of Princeton University have issued a circular of information regarding the sesqui-centennial celebration which takes place on October 20th, 21st and 22d. The most important ceremonies will be held on October 22d, when degrees will be conferred and announcements will be made of the endowments secured. During the week preceding these exercises lectures will be given by some of the foreign

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