mon skin, while the *Ranzaniinae* (*Orthogoriscini* Bon) have the skeleton 'Sub-osseous' and the rays distinct. The most important of the other characters were detailed.

Dr. C. W. Stiles presented a paper on 'The Honorary Ph. D.'

F. A. LUCAS, *Secretary*.

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE 268TH REGULAR MEETING OF THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY, TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 7, 1897.

THE evening was devoted to a symposium upon Anthropology at the Field Columbian Museum, by Professor Wm. H. Holmes; at the American Museum of Natural History, by Professor Otis T. Mason, and at the Brussels International Exposition, by Dr. Thomas Wilson.

Professor Holmes described briefly the origin and growth of the Field Columbian Museum, of Chicago, and presented a photographic view and ground plan of the building—the Art Building of the World's Fair. The plan was colored to show the arrangements of the departments of the Museum, and especial attention was given to Anthropology. The arrangement of the collections was pointed out and the more interesting and valuable exhibits described.

Professor Otis T. Mason gave a description of the arrangement of the exhibits at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, and dwelt upon the Polynesian collection and the method of its being brought together, stating that each object, as it was obtained, was labeled with its origin, with its surrounding history and every fact that it was possible to find. He noted the difference between the various methods employed by the heads of the several museums, and believed that a diversity of methods was valuable, as it gave an opportunity for the display of each man's idea, and that stress was thus laid on the subject from many points of view.

Dr. Thomas Wilson gave a review of the Brussels International Exposition, of which Professor J. H. Gore and himself were the United States Commissioners. The Exposition was primarily a commercial one and was intended to show, first, what Belgium had to sell,

and secondly, what she had to buy. The scientific department was under the direction of a number of scientific gentlemen, of whom Professor Houze was Chairman or Director-in-Chief. The scientific department was located in the great hemi-cycle, which embraced one of the great or main entrances.

Since the United States was only allowed \$5,000 by Congress for its exhibit, no part of which could be expended for salaries of the Commissioners or for defraying the freight expenses of private exhibitors from America, the exhibit from this country was necessarily smaller than usual.

The anthropologic exhibit was not large, but was very good. The Belgian division was unusually fine, the prehistoric finds of the caves and grottos being very full and complete.

J. H. McCORMICK,
Secretary.

TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB, OCTOBER 27, 1897.

THE first paper, by Mr. P. A. Rydberg, entitled 'Botanical Exploration in Montana During the Summer of 1897,' discussed the alpine flora of Montana, adding herbarium specimens and drawings. Mr. Rydberg described a collecting trip made by him and Mr. Ernest A. Bessey to Old Hollowtop, a mountain of 10,000 feet altitude in the Pony or South Boulder Mountains. Their characteristic plants, like those of other alpine regions, are remarkable for their small size and their brightly colored flowers. Most of them are but 2–3 inches high; few exceed 5 inches. The mountain side of Old Hollowtop presents a mixture of golden-yellow, indigo-blue, the richest magenta, the most delicate pink, violet and snowy white, with a carpet of the brightest green for a background. The forage plants of these alpine peaks are chiefly small caespitose clovers, and include but few grasses. Among the trees and shrubs of the alpine peaks, the most remarkable were the five small alpine willows collected, forming a light green mat covering the mountain-side above timber line. The smaller willows of the White Mountains and of the Alps and of Siberia are giants compared with these dwarfs of the Rockies. Four of these