

NOTES AND NEWS

Hofrat Professor Dr. Gustav Tschermak, 1836-1927

The recent death of the veteran mineralogist, Professor Gustav Tschermak, will bring sadness to the members of The Mineralogical Society of America, and to everyone interested in the science throughout the civilized world. He was ninety-one years old in April, and in the early morning of May 4th passed quietly away. A letter from Fräulein Antonia Lichtblau, who had given him the devoted care of a daughter for many years, gives the details of his last days. The picture taken about the time of his ninetieth birthday (1926), and sent to the Society, shows a man of remarkable vigor for his years. Even up to very near the end, he retained his clearness of mind, and on April 29th, when the usual monthly check arrived, expressed his great gratitude for the aid which had done so much to make his life comfortable since the summer of 1920.

Mineralogists do not need to be informed as to what Tschermak was to Mineralogy and of the work he accomplished. The results of his studies and investigations were numerous and important, especially the outstanding memoirs devoted to the Feldspars (1865), the Micas (1878), the Chlorites (1890), and the Vermiculites (1891). He was also the founder of *Tschermak's Mineralogische und Petrographische Mitteilungen* and did much to build up the great mineral collection in Vienna. A great leader in Mineralogy has gone, but the record of his life and work will surely arouse the ambition of every worker of today.

When the writer knew him, in the far distant days of 1873-74, he was a fine courtly gentleman in his early manhood, ever kind and helpful to the young American student who had the privilege of a desk in the Vienna Mineral Cabinet.

Madame Tschermak still lives at the age of 89 years, but her mind is clouded so that the loss that has come to her is not realized. We must certainly continue to send money for her support as long as her life goes on. When all is over, it would seem suitable, that Fräulein Lichtblau should receive from the Society a pecuniary expression of what she has done for the family. This plan will be acted upon, when the time arrives, if no objection is expressed.



GUSTAV TSCHERMAK
 Photograph taken about the
 time of his ninetieth birthday,
 April 19, 1926

EDWARD S. DANA

Errata in April Number of THE AMERICAN MINERALOGIST

Page 110. For numbers in first column, last two lines, for 33 and 89, read 38 and 39. Plate III, facing 125. Interchange legends and numbers for figures 15 and 16.

Page 131, last column, seventh line from top, for 13 read 3.

Page 176, figure 2. The line between the brachydomes f and x , and also the letter f , are omitted. See figure 4.

Page 182, second line from bottom, for a (100), read c (100).

Page 184, figure 2, the figure has been tilted 30° to the right and the two letters r on the right turned out of position. The line between c and r should be horizontal.

Pages 185 and 186, figures 5 and 6 are interchanged.

In an address given by Dr. George F. Kunz before the New York Mineralogical Club, the name "Starlite" was suggested for the blue colored zircon that has become so popular recently. The material comes from the vicinity of the old sapphire workings north of Bangkok, Siam, where it occurs at a depth of from five to ten feet in an alluvial deposit. According to Dr. Kunz the blue color is the result of a special heat treatment in which the zircon is brought in contact with fumes liberated from a solution of cobalt nitrate and potassium ferrocyanide.

Professor A. E. Fersman, the well-known Russian mineralogist, was elected Vice-president of the Academy of Sciences of Leningrad, Russia. Dr. Fersman has written numerous books and articles on mineralogical subjects. Recently he prepared a short paper for the readers of our Journal on "Minerals of the Kola Peninsula" which was published in the November (1926) number of THE AMERICAN MINERALOGIST.

Dr. Oliver Bowles, Superintendent of the Bureau of Mines Experiment Station at New Brunswick, New Jersey, gave a short graduate course of lectures at Columbia University on the "Economic Geology of Non-metallic Minerals."

Mr. Lloyd W. Fisher of the Department of Geology, Brown University, has been appointed to the Ella Slack scholarship at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Hurst of the Dept. of Geology, Ohio State University, has been appointed his successor at Brown.

The Provincial Government of Manitoba has appointed Professor R. C. Wallace, of the Department of Geology and Mineralogy of the University of Manitoba, commissioner of mines.

Mr. Mengo L. Morganthau, well known collector of beautiful and striking mineral specimens, died May 21, 1927, in New York.