

A NEW DEPARTURE.

IT is hoped that this first number of the MUSEUM JOURNAL will meet with a favorable reception on the part of the members, and of readers generally. It will be followed by other numbers at intervals of three months, with added features calculated to meet more fully the demands of all who take an interest in Museum matters. The first and chief object of the JOURNAL is to convey to the members an accurate account of what the Museum is doing and to keep them in touch with its activities. The need for such a medium of communication, felt in the past, has of late been clearly indicated by a general demand for authoritative information along those lines of activity to which public attention has already been directed or upon the less advertised labors, which together justify our claims upon public attention. Such information, in order to reach the many, without prejudice to the few whose inclinations and opportunities have led them into the channels of special knowledge, must be presented without too many technical particulars. Accuracy of outline must take the place of abundance of detail. The Museum is an educational institution of wide connections. Its several larger series of publications, dealing with subjects of research and containing detailed results of investigations, are intelligible and interesting to the specialist but unprofitable to the public. On the other hand the public generally has the deeper interest in the Museum since it is erected for their benefit, while the members of the Museum and all who contribute to its support have a peculiar interest in its operations and naturally desire to know what is being done. It has been thought that a quarterly journal would give the most efficient means of meeting these several needs.

The scope and purpose of the JOURNAL

make it a standard publication of merit, containing much information regarding exploration and kindred topics which cannot be had elsewhere. In addition to the regular review, it will contain short articles upon objects of special interest in the Museum. It will relate the history of expeditions in the field and give descriptions of all new acquisitions. It will form a magazine of valuable and entertaining matter appropriate to any library or reading room.

GROWTH OF THE MUSEUM.

In 1889 the University Museum was founded and the collections acquired at that time were installed in the Library building. In 1898 the fine new building designed by Cope & Stewardson, Frank Miles Day and Wilson Eyre was erected. The architects' plan contemplate a beautiful and imposing edifice worthy of the object to which it is to be devoted, a noble adjunct to the University and a superb feature of the city. Situated on the west bank of the Schuylkill, it is designed, when complete with its great towering dome and graceful walls, to command the entire Schuylkill embankment of the future.

The ground for this great edifice has been made over by the city to the University, and the building erected in 1898, and now known as the University Museum, constitutes about one-fifth of the entire plan. In the meantime the growth of the collections has been so rapid that the present building is inadequate to hold them, and the time has come when an appeal must be made to the citizens of Philadelphia for the means of erecting the remainder of the building according to the architects' plans. The exhibition rooms are becoming overcrowded, the storage rooms are full, and valuable collections which would surely come to us