Science Notes

BY WILLIAM G. HAYNES.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

Is it possible for an irresistible force to meet an immovable body?

A. As a logical quibble it is possible to conceive of an irresistible force and of an immovable body, but only as a logical conception. No such force or body exists anywhere in nature. Both of these must be infinite in quantity to be irresistible and immovable. Anything less could be overcome. Thus we reach the inference as a logical conclusion that such a combination is a physical impossibility.-Scientific American.

(13094) R. G. asks: If I suspend a certain heavy object on a spring scale exactly on the equator, the indicated weight will show the difference between the force of attraction and the centrifugal power of our globe. The same scale with the same object brought to one of the poles, the attraction towards the center of the earth-now not being counteracted by the centrifugal power which on the poles is equal to zero-will cause a stronger declination on the scale. A different weight ought to be obtained also if the experiment, for reasons of convenience, is made between two points not so far apart north and south as those above mentioned. A. You are quite right in your statement that a body, when weighed with a spring balance, will weigh more at the poles of the earth than at the equator, because of the absence of centrifugal force at the poles. This force is 1/289 of the weight. It will weigh more at the poles because it is nearer the center of the earth at the poles. At points intermediate between the equator and the poles it will weigh more than at the equator, the weight increasing as the body is carried away from the equator.-Scientific American.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS FROM PRESS OF COUNTRY ON DEATH OF WASHINGTON

MAN OF EXTRAORDINARY NA-TIVE TALENT. (The New York Times.)

Dr. Washington was a man of ex--traordinary native talent which, considering the quality and extent of his achievement and its relation to the highest interests of the Republic. may well be called genius. Taken in connection with his character, the loftiness and scope of his moral purposes, the complexity of his task, and the obstacles he had to overcome, his career is one of the most remarkable that our history affords. It is doubtful if any American, within the forty years of his active life, has rendered to the nation service of greater or more lasting value than his.

A GREAT LEADER. (New York Evening Mail.)

America is poorer because of the death of Booker T. Washington. He was a great leader who saw fundamentals clearly. By the work of his hands and his own will and determination he rose from the poverty and ignorance that hemmed in his race. He was one of the first Americans, black or white, to recognize clearly that civilization is built not upon cultural studies, but upon an economic foundation. He held that each indi- | ject have a black skin or white. vidual acquires his basic character

qualities and the fundamental virtues IMPOSSIBLE TO MEASURE INthat make him a useful member of society through useful, purposeful work with the hands.

THE SECRET OF HIS SUCCESS. (New York Evening Post.)

In Booker Washington the country loses not only a leader, but one who was in his person a real triumph of democracy.

If there was any secret of his success in overcoming the terrible obstacles which confronts every man of color, it lay surely in his unfailing optimism, his dogged determination to let no obstacle daunt him, and to be himself above insult or humiliation. He was big enough to see early in life that the man who flouts another because of some difference in natural attributes, injures himself, and not the object of his venom. No disappointment could discourage him; if one benefactor dropped out he found another for the place; if his audiences were small and the returns disappointing, why there was other audiences to be found. And so he speedily typified in his person all the great work that Hampton and Tuskegee and a host of other schools were doing for his race, and proved beyond dispute how that work of bringing light to those that would otherwise sit in darkness earns enormous dividends not only for the blacks but for the entire Republic. Thus thousands who heard him speak realized for the first time what talents, what possibilities of individual usefulness, ie latent among our colored fellow citizens, and others found in his op From Slavery" a real tract for democracy and for the brotherhood of

NATIONALLY FAMOUS. (The New York Press.)

Born the fatherless son of a slave woman, Booker T. Washington became nationally famous and nationally respected. He was the guest of one president, the host of another. Washington was a master of arts by virtue of a degree confered upon him at Harvard, and a doctor of laws of Dartmouth college. He was acknowledged the greatest educator the Negro race ever produced. Possibly he was the greatest man in all history with Negro blood in his veins.

HE WAS A MAN. (The Pittsburgh Leader.)

The death of Booker T. Washington deprives his race of the sympathetic labors of a man who has done more for his people than Abraham Lincoln did when he set them free from the shackles of bondage to the Southern plantations.

Lincoln did no more, could do no ore, than apply the cutting file of white man. executive power to the chains that bound them in bodily slavery to their white masters. That was much, but infinitely less than what Booker Washington has done.

In time to come, when the merits of Booker T. Washington's lifetime are gone over by the student of human progress, it will be forgotten that he was a black man, born in slavery.

No one will think of whether he was white or black. No one will care. He will be held as one who loved his fellow men far beyond the ordinary limits of fraternal warmth.

They will recognize one quality and that will be enough, whether the sub-

He was a man.

FLUENCE.

(Detroit (Mich.) Free Press.)

It is imposisble to measure the influence Booker T. Washington exercised upon the progress of civilization during his lifetime. The ordinary standards by which we gauge the results of an educator's work do not apply in his case, for the radiating force of Tuskegee has been vastly more penetrating than that which emanates from educational institutions generally. He made his impress upon those who passed directly through his hands, as all college teachers do, and these alone must have been a very large number since the attendance at the school in this one year is more than 1,600. But every one of his graduates was a missionary, sent out to disseminate through the mass of the Negro pcople the leaven of uplifting culture instilled into him or her by the founder of the college, and in this light the ultimate influence of the man upon the world becomes one of the marvels

For the advance of the Negro race in the United States, it is to be borne in mind, has been from the absolute zero of slavery conditions-the slave being nothing and having nothingto all that the race is and has today. It is not to be supposed, of course, that the average level of the Afro-American people has been raised through the long sweep of distance which Booker Washington covered in his personal up-climb. He was a spectacular exception, even among all our people. But the race level has gone up to a marvelous extent from its starting point, and for this aggregate advance the educator now dead should be given a large degree of credit in addition to what he deserves for his individual development.

Estimated in gross, it may be that the influence of this son of a slave woman and an unknown father has been the greatest of all American forces for progress in our generation. The computation is beyond finite minds. Only the Supreme Judge can know the answer to the question. But at least we mortals can bid farewell to the departed man with deep respect and an acknowledgment of his to us unmeasurable value to our time.

"A PIONEER." (Raleigh News and Observer.)

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 14.—"Booker T. Washington should be recognized as a pioneer in leading his race into paths along which it had the best opportunity of advancement. In emphasizing the value of industrial undertakings to the Negro, he rendered a service to that race and to the

"His work at Tuskegee has proved of value to the South and to the nation. He has been a wise counsellor of his people. His efforts have been a source of uplift to the Negro, whom he has emancipated from many things which shackled. The career of Booker T. Washington gives him first place among his race in Amer-

"LABORED FOR REAL GOOD." (Little Rock, Ark., Gazette.)

Little Rock, Aark., Nov. 14. "Booker T. Washington commended himself to the people of Arkansas because he labored for the real good of his race. He taught his people the nobility of labor, and those who have listened well have prospered in the South, where the industrious Negro never lacks work."

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