

most copiously illustrated by microscopic preparations from the Professor's large private collection. 2nd Reproduction of the lower plants, ^{one hour a week} more decidedly German than the former course, consisting of conclusions reached by a comparison of modern researches on generation, sexual and asexual, amongst the algae and fungi. I think I should wrong no one by saying that I do not believe that any except those who had made a special study of botany could have understood this ^{at all} course. Prof Solms subject was cryptogamy four hours a week, The treatment was of course rather morphological than systematic.

The laboratory is well arranged for microscopic work and has, on the whole the appearance of a hybrid between a chemical and zoological laboratory. Of course, the whole work is done with the microscope and no one intends to study anything not microscopic. Although there is a good outfit of compound

The
burg which has, for
been conducted and
the Germans stand
botany is concerned,
It is rather the fact
the University has been
Germans. This, however
unless we adopt the
can be a University
conducted on the same
of Germany. Before the
was the name of Uca
to what is now the Uni
the number of students
larger than at present
for a long time been to
distinguished scient
botanists of the old
and Buehner still
the most promising

men, is now in Nancy. Prof. Schimper, perhaps the most distinguished member of the scientific faculty, still gives lectures on fossil botany and has a very large and rich collection of fossil plants.

The active botanical work is performed by Prof. DeBary and ~~assistant~~ Prof. Bruno von Laubach with Dr. Fritz Schmitz as assistant in the laboratory. The number of students attending botanical lectures, if the except the course on Medical plants, which must properly be included in the medical department, has never been greater than fifteen and quite frequently not more than five. The attendance has some times been as low as two. I give these numbers simply to show how different are the conditions from those of our own universities. An American professor would hardly think it worth his while to ~~deliver a lecture~~ ^{give a course} to five students. The different proportion of instructors,

and students affords how the Germans are able to do high scientific work. They have very little else on this object that they as professors whilst in a university are only able to do any work in intervals between of elementary instruction done in Germany in the last winter and audiences were not of such a high character. A few could have understood, all over Germany it is more elementary than it is to be presumed that there are very few beg the word is used in a of Prof. DeBary's course of General Vegetable Anatomy week. This was an actual ~~subject~~ ^{known of} known of K.

the students are provided with too
paper, pill boxes, ~~specimens~~ hammers &c.
Once in the field every stone is ex-
amined with a lens for lichens, every
old stump is pulled to pieces in search
of myxomycetes and the ditches are
ransacked for algae. At the sight
of a potato or turnip field there is
a general scramble and all the leaves
are turned over to see if there is
any *Peronospora*. Having exhausted
their patience, ^{and the} day light a general
aid, perhaps hastily, retreat is beat for
the nearest beer house, ~~by the way~~
there are beer houses and wine all over
the Vosges, and nothing more is thought
about botany till the next morning
when there is a general overhauling
of boxes and emptying of pockets in
the laboratory.

11th Nov.
microscopes there is
dissecting microscopes,
lens. It looks strange
a botanist sit down
not a frequent occurrence
flower, a *Polygonum*,
a compound microscope,
~~Reddressem~~, just as of
or a lichen. In one case
is a hood used when
mixture as when horns
boiled in horn for the
Chaetocladium or *Pipt*
tables, rather disgust-
ted, are bell glasses
decaying substances.
~~at~~ ^{quantities} ~~numbers~~ of more
Under some glasses in
pillars lead a miser
still some splendid
an end to their exist-
are glass vessels contain-
fresh water algae and
from the Mediterranean
to thrive tolerably well



Farlow, W. G. 1873. "Farlow, William G. Nov. 15, 1873 [enclosure]." *Asa Gray correspondence*

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