

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

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*Stated Meeting, January 3, 1862.*

Present, eleven members.

Dr. FRANKLIN BACHE, in the Chair.

The judges and clerks of the annual election, held this day, reported the appointment of the following officers:

*President.*

George B. Wood, M.D.

*Vice-Presidents.*

John C. Cresson,  
Isaac Lea,  
George Sharswood.

*Secretaries.*

Charles B. Trego,  
E. Otis Kendall,  
John L. Le Conte, M.D.,  
J. Peter Lesley.

*Counsellors for Three Years.*

Isaac Hays,  
Robert E. Rogers, M.D.,  
Henry C. Carey,  
Robert Bridges.

*Curators.*

Franklin Peale,  
Elias Durand,  
Joseph Carson, M.D.

*Treasurer.*

Charles B. Trego.

Letters acknowledging the receipt of publications, were received from the R. Saxon Society, dated Leipsig, August 1, the Royal Society, dated London, July 1, and the London Linnean Society, dated July 14th, 1861.

Letters announcing donations to the Society were read from the Imperial Society of Naturalists, dated Moscow, June 1-13, the Imperial Academy at Vienna, dated June 25, the R. Saxon Society at Leipsig, dated July 9, and 30, the Society at Görlitz, dated July 30, the Society at Göttingen, dated July 19, and the Society at Marburg, dated August 14, 1861, desiring an exchange of publications. The Marburg Society was ordered to be placed on the list of correspondents, to receive the Proceedings.

A letter was read from the Directors of the U. S. Naval Observatory at Washington, which Institution was ordered to be placed on the list of correspondents, to receive as full a series of the Transactions as can be made up.

Donations for the Library were received from the Academies and Societies at St. Petersburg, Moscow, Vienna, Leipsig, Görlitz, Marburg, Göttingen, Haarlem, and Dijon; the School of Mines at Paris; the Royal and Linnean Societies of London; Prof. Secchi, of Rome; the Director of the U. S. Observatory at Washington; the Director of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia; C. M. Wheatley, of Phœnixville; Charles Ellet, Jr., and Joseph Lesley, of Philadelphia.

Mr. Peale called the attention of the Society to the resumé of recent Antiquarian Science of Prof. Morlot, of Geneva, published by the Smithsonian Institution; and exhibited a specimen, from his own cabinet, of a saw-like stone, resem-

bling the implements with crenulated edges described as saws by Prof. Morlot.

Prof. Lesley presented three short original Vocabularies of African Dialects, obtained by Rev. Alexander Crummell, from among four hundred recaptured slaves, landed from a United States war vessel at Sino, in Liberia.

The following words were obtained by the Rev. Mr. Crummell, from a crowd of recaptured Africans, landed at Sino, in Liberia, about two hundred miles west of Cape Palmas. The slaves were about four hundred in number, and apparently of four or five distinct nationalities, each group conversing and keeping apart. Mr. Crummell had the aid of several intelligent interpreters whom he found among them, and took great pains to secure both the true words and the correct pronunciation. As the English language is gradually supplanting the native African dialects along that coast, every authentic addition to our collections becomes valuable. In re-writing these words I have employed the continental vowels. The *v* is a pure English *v*, and the consonants are written double only when clearly pronounced double. The most striking feature of these little vocabularies, is the application of almost the same dental dissyllable to a number of very dissimilar objects. I refer to the words Ade (1), Ato (3), Ane (4), Ede (6), Añe (8), Ionu (woman), Addo (stomach), Adu (teeth), Ade (tongue), Edda (hair), Etta (head), Etto (ear), Ido (eye). I suspected that some error had been occasioned by the use of pantomimic references to the members of the head, and that thereby the word for *head* was offered, when words for eye, ear, hair, tongue, teeth, &c., were required. But Mr. Crummell assured me that this source of error was carefully guarded against. We find the analogues of this dental dissyllable in the list of words meaning *head*, published in Vol. VII, page 151 of the Proceedings of this Society, among the Indian languages of America, in e. x. the Naguiler *Ψie*, the Chippewayan *edΨie*; among the European languages, in the French *tête*, the Wallzau *totoo*, the Caucasian *dudi* and *adada*, the Siberian *ty*, Chinese *teu*, and Manchu *udzu*. We find the same form meaning *hair* in the Vogul and Samoied words *otta*, *yta*, *yt*, *at*, *acti*, and *tue*. It is remarkable how rarely this simple dental form occurs in that list; and that the confounding of *head* and *hair* under this form occurs in the same region.

|          | Popo and Jelakufi<br>People. | Awūsa People.           | Dahomi.                           |
|----------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1.       | Uli,                         | Ade,                    | Dok-po.                           |
| 2.       | Biu,                         | Erver,                  | O <sup>c</sup> -we.               |
| 3.       | Oku,                         | Urtong,                 | A-to.                             |
| 4.       | Hodu,                        | Ane,                    | E <sup>c</sup> ne.                |
| 5.       | Biat,                        | Etong,                  | A-tong.                           |
| 6.       | Sid-da,                      | Ede,                    | Ai-ise.                           |
| 7.       | Bok-koi,                     | De-din-ne,              | Teg-we.                           |
| 8.       | Tok-quos,                    | Añe,                    | Ta <sup>c</sup> -to.              |
| 9.       | Tera,                        | 'Shaki,                 | Te <sup>c</sup> -ne.              |
| 10.      | Go-mer,*                     | Eö,                     | O <sup>c</sup> -o.                |
| Sun.     | Allar,                       | { Don-kus-so,<br>Er-we, | We <sup>c</sup> -di-ve.           |
| Moon.    | Wa-ta,                       | U-la-ti,                | O <sup>c</sup> -su.               |
| Man.     | Bar-bar,                     | Er-wu-su,               | Su-nu.                            |
| Woman.   | Mut-chi,                     | En-nun-nu,              | Io-nu.                            |
| Hand.    | Han-nu,                      | Al-lo,                  | Al-lo-pa.                         |
| Foot.    | Koppa,                       | Af-fo,                  | Af-fo.                            |
| Face.    | Fis-ca,                      | E <sup>c</sup> -u-ma,   | An-nu-ku-mi.                      |
| Stomach. | Chik-i,                      | Ad-do,                  | Ad-do-go.                         |
| Arm.     | Dūm-si,                      | Ab-lo,                  | A <sup>c</sup> -wa <sup>c</sup> . |
| Teeth.   | Hai-ko-li,                   | Ad-u,                   | Ad-u.                             |
| Tongue.  | Hal-lis-si,                  | Ad-e,                   | Ad-e.                             |
| Hair.    | Gai-si,                      | Ed-da,                  | U-da.                             |
| Head.    | Kai-si,                      | Et-ta,                  | U-ta.                             |
| Nose.    | Han-si,                      | Em-mo-ti,               | A <sup>c</sup> -wo-ti.            |
| Ear.     | Quin-ni,                     | Et-to,                  | Et-to.                            |
| Eye.     | Id-o,                        | En-ku-ve,               | Un-de.                            |

Prof. Haldeman described certain peculiar words and sounds of the Basque language, obtained from natives, on his late visit to Europe.

The attention of the members present was invited to a set of lithographs of fossil sauroid bones, discovered by Mr. C. M. Wheatley, in the Phœnixville Tunnel, on the Schuylkill River, about thirty miles above Philadelphia, in rocks of the New Red Sandstone Formation. The originals form part of

\* Basque, 'amar.

Mr. Wheatley's extensive cabinet of undescribed Mesozoic plants, shells and bones.

On motion of Mr. Fraley, Mr. Lesley was nominated Librarian for the ensuing year.

Pending nominations Nos. 425 to 445, and new nomination No. 446, were read.

And the Society was adjourned.

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*Stated Meeting, January 17, 1862.*

Present, twelve members.

Dr. FRANKLIN BACHE, in the Chair.

The Verein für Naturkunde im Herzogthum Nassau, was ordered to be placed upon the list of corresponding societies.

Donations for the Library were received from the Academy at Boston; the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture; the Medical Journal and Franklin Institute; B. V. Marsh, and Sherman & Son, of Philadelphia.

Dr. Bache announced the death of Sir John Forbes, a member of this Society, November 13, 1861, aged 74.

Prof. Lesley, read extracts from letters from Prof. James Hall, of Albany, relative to the Taconic System of Dr. Emmons.

The discussion of this system has lately been revived by Mr. Marcou, supported by the distinguished Bohemian palæontologist M. Barrande. Mr. Hall in these letters claims that the original error was made by the geologists of the New York Survey, who had charge of the eastern divisions of the State, in identifying the two slate formations on the two opposite sides of the Hudson River. Sir William Logan, chief of the Canada Survey, describes a similar error made in the great plain of the Richelieu River, before the existence of the great fault in Canada was known. Mr. Hall, accepting the identification in the Hudson region, proved long ago that the Hudson River slates were the same as the Taconic slates of Emmons. It now appears, that the Hudson River slates, east of the Hudson, are not the No. 3 (the upper part of the Lower Silurian) slates of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, west of the Hudson; and that that name must be dropped; or applied only to the slates of the Hudson River