

Stated Meeting, November 7.

Present, twenty-five members.

Dr. FRANKLIN BACHE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From Professor Zantedeschi, dated Padua, 10th September, 1851; from John Leconte, dated New York, October 26, 1851; and from Edward Hallowell, dated Philadelphia, November 5, 1851; severally acknowledging the receipt of notice of their election as members of this Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

- Archives du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle: Publiées par les Professeurs de cet Etablissement. Tome IV.; Livraisons, 1, 2, 3, 4; Tome V.; Livraisons, 1, 2, 3. Paris. 4to.—*From the Museum of Natural History, Paris.*
- Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris. Catalogue de la Collection Entomologique: classe d'Insectes, Ordre des Coléoptères: première et deuxième livraisons. Catalogue Methodique de la Collection des Reptiles: première livraison. Paris, 1850-51. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Journal Asiatique. Quatrième Serie. Tome XVII. Paris, 1851. 8vo.—*From the Asiatic Society of Paris.*
- Quarterly Journal of the Chemical Society. Vol. IV. No. 3. Oct. 1, 1851. London. 8vo.—*From the Society.*
- Memoirs of the Royal Astronomical Society. Vol. XIX; being the quarto half volume for the session 1849-50. London, 1851. 4to.—*From the Society.*
- Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society. Vol. X. Nov. 1849, to June, 1850. London. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Contributions to Astronomy and Geodesy; forming part of Vol. XX. of the Memoirs of the Royal Astronomical Society. By Thomas Maclear, Esq., Her Majesty's Astronomer at the Cape of Good Hope. London, 1851. 4to.—*From the same.*
- Dell' Origine e Progresso della Fisica Teorica Sperimentale, nell' Archiginnasio Padovano: Prelezione del P. Professore di Fisica, Ab. Francesco Caval. Zantedeschi, membro del Reale Istituto

- Veneto: letta nel Novembre, 1850. Venezia, 1851. 8vo.—
From the Author.
- Giornale Fisico-chimico Italiano, ossia raccolta di scritti riguardanti la Fisica e la Chimica degl' Italiani. Puntata 1, 2, 3, 4. Venezia, 1851. 8vo.—*From Prof. Zantedeschi.*
- The American Journal of Science and Arts. Second Series. Vol. XII. No. 36. Nov. 1851. New Haven. 8vo.—*From Profs. Silliman and Dana, Editors.*
- Report of the Commissioner of Patents, for the Year 1850. Part I. Arts and Manufactures. Washington, 1851. 8vo.—*From the Hon. Thomas Ewbank, Commissioner of Patents.*
- The Dispensary of the United States of America. By George B. Wood, M.D. Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, &c. &c. and Franklin Bache, M.D. Professor of Chemistry in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, &c. &c. Ninth Edition, carefully revised. Philadelphia, 1851. 8vo.—*From Dr. Franklin Bache.*
- A History of the Massachusetts General Hospital. By N. J. Bowditch. Boston, 1851. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- Historia de Mejico, desde los primeros movimientos que prepararon su independencia en el año 1808, hasta la epoca presente. Por D. Lucas Alaman. Parte primera. Tomo IV. Mexico, 1851. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- The Medical News and Library. Vol. IX. No. 107. November, 1851. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*

Mr. Lea announced the death of Richard C. Taylor, a member of this Society, who died on the 26th ultimo, at the age of sixty-two. Mr. Lea gave an account of the life of the deceased, and the services which he had rendered to literature and to geological science.

It is rarely we have to announce a greater loss to science than it has sustained in the death of Richard Cowling Taylor, the eminent Geologist and Mining Engineer, which occurred at his residence in this city, on the 26th ult. His sudden decease, in the midst of active professional employment, and scientific pursuits of the highest order, has deprived this branch of knowledge in our country of one of its brightest ornaments and most useful labourers. Early educated, in a thorough manner, in his profession, in his own country, England, he soon acquired a knowledge of Geology and Mine Engineering, which brought him in connexion with the best science of the country, and

he was made an associate of the Geological Society of London, and other learned institutions of Great Britain. Immediately on his quitting his studies he was engaged in the practice of his profession, and he lent his services to the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain, the British Iron Company, &c. &c. While engaged in South Wales he made a report to this company, which drew the general attention of men of science to him, and particularly in regard to the execution of a model of part of the coal and iron district of South Wales. This model caused the Gold Isis Medal to be conferred upon him by the "Society of Arts" of London. It was the first model of the kind which had been executed, and it drew so much attention that Sir Francis Chantry had a copy made of it for Dr. Buckland.

In 1831, Mr. Taylor came to this country, and resided some years in Philadelphia, in this State. Shortly after, he was engaged in a survey of the coal field of Tioga county, and, subsequently, in the western district of the southern coal field of Pennsylvania, in Dauphin county. Of the latter he made a model, which, in point of scientific exactness and artistical excellence, has not, it is believed, ever been surpassed, if it has ever been equalled, embracing, as it does, the exact geology and topography of 45 miles by 15, the length being 14 feet. From the time of Mr. Taylor's arrival in this country until his death, he was actively employed either in the field, under professional engagements, or at his table, in perfecting his observations, and giving them in the form of most valuable contributions to the science of geology, in the journals and transactions of our learned societies. His engagements in most of the mineral districts of the United States, and in many cases beyond the limits of the States, produced professional reports of such a character as to remain models worthy of all praise and imitation. They were universally marked by a character so thorough and so candid as induced the most unbounded confidence in all who sought his professional assistance.

Mr. Taylor's first literary production was a learned work, entitled "*Index Monasticus*," in 1 vol. folio, which met with so much favour as to induce him to undertake another learned work, called "A General Index to Dugdale's *Monasticon Anglicanum*," in 1 vol. folio, with maps and plates. In the transactions of the Geological Society of London, and in the Magazine of Natural History, he published various geological papers, viz: on the Crag Strata of Bramerton; on the Chalk Strata of Norfolk and Suffolk; on the Progress of Geology; Introduction to Geology; Illustrations of Antediluvian Zoology and Botany. In the American Scientific Journals—Geological posi-

tion of certain beds, which contain numerous Fossil Marine Plants in Mifflin county, Pa; on the Transition and Secondary Coal Formations in Pennsylvania; Existence of an Ancient Lake in Mifflin county; Coal Field of Blossburg; Bituminous Coal field near Richmond, Va.; Section (250 miles) in Virginia and Maryland; The Copper Region, Gibara in Cuba; Fossil Plants in Dauphin county Coal Field; Notes on Indian mounds and Earthworks; and other minor papers.

Mr. Taylor's great work, however, is his "*Statistics of Coal*," published in this city, in 1 vol. 8vo. pp. 754, in 1848. This was the result of the labours of a long life—facts stored up with the most unremitting care, and digested with an order worthy of all praise. The reviewers of England and this country gave it their highest approval and unstinted commendation. The Edinburgh Review considered his "inquiries to have been extended with marvellous industry and perseverance to every part of the globe." The Journal of the Franklin Institute stated that it could scarcely be thought possible that one individual could have collected such a mass of facts. Hunt's Merchant's Magazine stated in its notice, that "on no kindred subject, has a more complete and perfect treatise ever been produced."

The services of Mr. Taylor in economic geology and theoretic geology naturally attracted the attention of learned bodies to him, and accordingly we find him a member of the Geological Society of London, the American Philosophical Society, the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Geological Society of Pennsylvania, the Franklin Institute, &c. of this city, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In all these Societies his loss will be deeply deplored, and his more intimate friends feel that his place cannot be easily filled, when ripe judgment, mature experience, and accurate knowledge are required in the scope of those sciences which he cultivated.

Dr. F. Bache announced the death of Don Manuel Godoy, a member of this Society, who died at Paris, on the 7th ultimo, in the 86th year of his age.

New nominations, Nos. 263, 264 and 265, were read.