

Dr. Hays referred to cases of entozoa found not only in the eye, but in other parts of the body, and alluded briefly to the practicability of the germs being received from without.

Dr. Chapman, as chairman of the Committee to collect documents connected with the political and historical state of the country, reported that he would be able to procure for the Society the Correspondence of Robert Morris. He farther stated his expectation to be able to present important documents from Virginia, calculated to throw valuable light on the history of the colony and the country.

Mr. Vaughan reported the death of Mr. Wm. Maclure, a member of the Society, who died in Mexico on the 23d of March last.

Dr. Dunglison, reporter, presented No. 11 of the printed Bulletin.

Stated Meeting, May 15.

Present, twenty-six members.

MR. DU PONCEAU, President, in the Chair.

The following donations were received:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Bulletin de la Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscou. Nos. 2 & 3. Année, 1838. 8vo. Moscou, 1838.—*From the Society.*

Communication from the Governor, transmitting several Reports relative to the Geological Survey of the State. 8vo. New York, 1840.—*From the State.*

Proceedings of the Royal Society. Nos. 41 and 42. December 5, 1839, to March 26, 1840, inclusive.—*From the Royal Society.*

Proceedings of the Royal Astronomical Society. Vol. V. No. 4. February 14, 1840. (Annual meeting).—*From the Society.*

Public Documents, printed by order of the Senate of the United States,

- Third Session of the 25th Congress, begun and held at the City of Washington, December 3, 1838, &c. In 5 vols. 8vo. Washington, 1839.—*From the Secretary of State.*
- Executive Documents, 25th Congress, 3d Session, 1838. In 6 Vols. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Reports of Committees, 25th Congress, 3d Session, 1838. In 2 Vols. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Journal of the Senate of the United States of America, 3d Session, 25th Congress, &c. &c. 8vo. Washington, 1838.—*From the same.*
- Journal of the House of Representatives of the United States, 3d Session, 25th Congress, &c. &c. 8vo. Washington, 1839.—*From the same.*
- Experimental Researches on Electricity. By Michael Faraday, D. C. L., F. R. S., Fullerian Professor of Chemistry in the Royal Institution, &c. &c. 8vo. London, 1839.—*From Mr. Bancker.*
- De la Bienfaisance Publique: par M. le Baron de Gérando, Pair de France, Membre de l'Institut, &c. &c. 4 Vols. 8vo. Paris, 1839.—*From Dr. Harlan.*
- L'Égypte et la Turquie de 1829 à 1836: par MM. Ed. de Cadalvene et J. de Breuvery, avec Cartes et Planches. 2 Vols. 8vo. Paris, 1836. Avec Atlas in fol.—*From Mr. Vaughan.*
- A Treatise on the Mulberry Tree and Silkworm, and on the Production and Manufacture of Silk, embellished with appropriate Engravings. By John Clarke, Superintendent of the Morodendron Silk Company of Philadelphia. 12mo. Philadelphia, 1839.—*From Mr. Duponceau.*
- A Manual, containing Information respecting the Growth of the Mulberry Tree, with suitable Directions for the Culture of Silk. In three parts. By J. H. Cobb, A. M. Originally published by direction of His Excellency, Governor Lincoln, agreeably to a Resolve of the Commonwealth. Fourth edition, enlarged. 12mo. Boston, 1839.—*From the same.*
- A Manual, containing Directions for Sowing, Transplanting, and Raising the Mulberry Tree; together with proper Instructions for Propagating the same by Cuttings, Layers, &c. &c., as also Instructions for the Culture of Silk: to which is added, Calculations showing the Produce and probable Expense of Cultivating from one to ten Acres, as tested by actual Results. By Edward P.

- Roberts, Editor, Farmer and Gardener. Third edition, with Improvements and Additions. 8vo. Baltimore, 1838.—*From the same.*
- The History of the United States for 1796; including a Variety of Interesting Particulars relative to the Federal Government previous to that Period. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1797.—*From the same.*
- The American Monthly Magazine, from January to June, 1824. Edited by James M'Henry. Vol. I. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1824.—*From the same.*
- Tracts and other Papers relating principally to the Origin, Settlement and Progress of the Colonies in North America, from the Discovery of the Country to the Year 1776. Collected by Peter Force. Vol. I. Washington, 1836.—*From the same.*
- The Original Letters written by the Rev. John Heckewelder, from the 3d of April, 1816, to the 5th of May, 1822, on the Indian Languages, &c. Collected by Peter S. Du Ponceau. 1840.—*From the same.*
- Berichte aus den Vereinigten Staaten von Nord America, über Eisenbahnen, Dampfschiffahrten, Banken und Andere Oeffentliche Unternehmungen. Verfasst von Franz Anton Ritter von Gerstner, Landstand im Königreiche Böhmen, emer. Professor der Mathematik am K. K. Polytechnischen Institute in Wien, u. s. w.; während dessen Aufenthaltes in Nord America, im Jahre, 1838 und 1839. 4to. Leipzig, 1839.—*From Dr. T. G. Flügel, U. S. Consul at Leipzig.*
- North American Herpetology, or a Description of the Reptiles inhabiting the United States. By John Edward Holbrook, M. D. Professor of Anatomy in the Medical College of the State of South Carolina, &c. &c. Vol. 3. 4to. Philadelphia, 1838.—*From the Author.*
- Report of a Geological, Mineralogical, and Topographical Examination of the Coal Field of Carbon Creek, the Property of the Towanda Rail Road and Coal Company, Bradford County, Pa. with an Analysis of the Minerals, accompanied by a Map of the Surveys, Profile of the Road, and Sections of the Mineral Ground. By Walter R. Johnson, A. M., Civ. and Min. Engineer, Professor of Chemistry and Natural Philosophy in Pennsylvania College, Philadelphia, &c. &c. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1840.—*From the Author.*
- Pétrifications Recueillies en Amérique, par M. Alexandre de Hum-

- boldt, et par M. Charles Degenhardt; décrites par Léopold de Buch. Fol. Berlin, 1839.—*From M. de Buch.*
- Explication de Deux Planches de Spirifer et d'Orthis. Par Léopold de Buch. Fol.—*From the same.*
- Explication de Trois Planches d'Ammonites. Par Léopold de Buch. 4to.—*From the same.*
- Lecture on the Advantages derived from Cultivating the Arts and Sciences. By G. Emerson, M.D. Delivered before the Philadelphia Mercantile Library Association, &c. Dec. 8, 1839. 8vo. *From the Author.*
- Synopsis of a Meteorological Journal, kept in the city of New York for the Years 1838 and 1839, including also the Mean Results of the last Seven Years. By W. C. Redfield.—*From the Author.*
- New Zealand in 1839, or Four Letters to the Right Hon. Earl Durham, Governor of the New Zealand Land Company, &c. &c. on the Colonization of that Island, and on the Present Condition and Prospects of its Native Inhabitants. By John Dunmore Lang, D.D., Principal of the Australian College, and Senior Minister of the Church of Scotland in New South Wales. 8vo. London, 1839.—*From the Author.*
- The American Journal of the Medical Sciences. No. LI. May, 1840.—*From the Editor, Dr. Hays.*
- Report of the Directors of the Thames Tunnel Company to the General Assembly of Proprietors, held at the London Tavern, on the 3d day of March, 1840;—with a Plan.—*From Mr. William Vaughan.*
- Sundry Pamphlets, 1. Exposition of the Plan and Objects of the Greenwood Cemetery, chartered by the State of New York. 8vo. New York, 1839. 2. Report of the Committee on the New Haven Burying Ground. 8vo. New Haven, 1839. 3. A Sermon, by Thomas F. Davies; published by request of the Congregational Society in Green's Farms. 8vo. New Haven, 1839. 4. Annual Address to the Candidates for Medical Degrees and Licenses in Yale College, Feb. 26, 1839. By Dr. Thomas Miner. Second edition. 8vo. New Haven, 1839. 5. Annual Address on a Similar Occasion, Jan. 21, 1840. By Dr. Dyar T. Brainard. 8vo. New Haven, 1840. 6. Report of a Committee on the State of the Prisons of Fairfield County. 8vo. Bridgeport, 1839. 7. The Completion of two Centuries, a Discourse preached in Fairfield, Nov. 28, 1839. By Lyman H. Atwater,

Pastor of the First Church in Fairfield. 8vo. Bridgeport, 1839.
 8. Report of the Agricultural Meeting held in Boston, Jan. 13, 1840, containing the Remarks of Mr. Webster and Prof. Silliman, with Notes by Henry Colman, Commissioner for the Agricultural Survey of the State. 8vo. Salem, 1840. A Discourse delivered in Norfield, May, 29, 1836. By John Noyes, at the close of the 50th year of his Ministry. 8vo. New Haven, 1839.—*From Prof. Silliman.*

Tableau Théorique de la Succession et de la Disposition la plus générale en Europe des Terrains et Roches qui composent l'Écorce de la Terre; ou Exposition Graphique du Tableau des Terrains, publié en 1829; par M. Alexandre Brongniart, Professeur de Mineralogie au Museum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris.
From the Author.

Third Annual Report of the Board of Education, together with the Third Annual Report of the Secretary of the Board. 8vo. Boston, 1840.—*From Dr. Thomas H. Webb, of Boston.*

Original Journal of a Council of War, held at Perth Amboy, Sept. 17, 1776; General Mercer, President, in which he proposed an Attack on the British Posts at Staten Island. MS.—*From his Son, Col. Hugh Mercer.*

FOR THE CABINET.

A Plaster Bust of Alexander Hamilton.—*From Mrs. Astley.*

Specimens of Crystallized Carbonate of Lime and Pipe Iron Ore; found at the Iron Works of William Reed, Perrysville, Mifflin County, and by him deposited at the Bank of the United States, with N. Biddle, Esq.—*From Mr. Dunlap, with the assent of Mr. Biddle.*

Two Daguerrotype Portraits, the one of Mr. Du Ponceau, the other of Mr. Vaughan, taken by Mr. Cornelius.—*From Dr. Goddard.*

The Committee to whom was referred the paper of Dr. Hare, entitled "Engraving and description of an apparatus and process for the rapid congelation of water," &c. reported in favour of its publication in the Society's Transactions, which was ordered accordingly.

A communication was read from Professor Bonnycastle, of the University of Virginia, entitled "On the insufficiency of Taylor's Theorem, as commonly investigated, with objections

to the demonstrations of Poisson and Cauchy, and the assumed generalization of Mr. Peacock, to which is added a new investigation, and remarks on the development and continuity of functions;" which was referred to a Committee.

Mr. Lea read a paper, entitled "Notice of the Oolitic formation in America, with descriptions of some of its organic remains, by Isaac Lea;" which was referred to a Committee.

A communication was read from Prof. Locke, of Cincinnati, the objects of which are, "1. To determine more accurately the relation, magnetic dip and intensity at Cincinnati, and at Louisville, Ky., by making observations as near together, in point of time, as possible. 2. To determine the horary changes of horizontal intensity at Cincinnati, and 3. To ascertain more accurately the effect of changes of temperature on the needles used by the author, and to deduce a constant coefficient for each of them." The paper was referred to the same Committee to whom Professor Locke's previous paper on the same subject was referred, (proceedings of March 6, 1840.)

Mr. Du Ponceau made a verbal communication on the subject of the silk culture in India.

It appears from the sixth volume of the Transactions of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India, Calcutta, 1839, which is in the library of the Society, that the English are extending the culture of silk to the Deccan and the Western Coast of India, and have an establishment for that purpose, under the direction of Signor Mutti, an Italian gentleman, who resides at Bombay, and is styled "Superintendent of the Silk Culture in the Deccan." Two letters addressed by him to John Bell, Esq. Secretary of the Agricultural Society of India, Mr. Du Ponceau considered to be worthy of the attention of those who feel an interest in the promotion of the silk culture in this country. A treatise by that gentleman on the various branches of the silk culture, is subjoined to, and published with, his letters. The chapter or division concerning the art or method of reeling or winding silk from the cocoons, Mr. Du Ponceau regards as replete with valuable practical instruction.

On this last subject, (the art of reeling,) the correspondent at Paris of the National Intelligencer asserts, that an excellent Treatise has been lately published, in that capital, by Mons. Ferrier, which has been re-

published in the third volume of the *Annals of the Sericole Society*, specially instituted for the promotion of the culture of silk in France.

As instruction is much wanted in this country, on this particular subject, while the culture of silk engages the general attention, Mr. Du Ponceau expressed a hope that M. Ferrier's Treatise would be translated, and published for the benefit of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Du Ponceau farther stated, that from the volume of Transactions above cited, it appears that the English are making great exertions to introduce the culture of cotton into India. Specimens of the best soils for growing cotton in this country, particularly those of Georgia, have been sent to the Agricultural and Horticultural Society, and analyzed by them. The descriptions accompanying the specimens have not been found sufficiently particular, nor have their analyses yet led to any decided conclusions. They seem to think, that the abundance and fineness of good cotton depend on the quantity of *carbon* in the soil, *and the solubility of that carbon*. But with this theory they do not appear to be entirely satisfied. They find that all the American, the Mauritius, and the best Singapore soils, producing the finest cotton, contain a considerable per centage of vegetable matter under the form of peat or lignite, in a state of exceedingly minute division, and in many of them, some part of it is readily soluble in cold water. They find, again, that the Indian soils contain very little vegetable matter, and this wholly insoluble in water, but that the best contain a far larger proportion of carbonate of lime, and some of them the iron in a different state from the others. It would seem, however, that the plant is somewhat indifferent about the iron; yet, as it is not known what part the iron plays in soils (which may influence their electricity as well as their tenacity and relations to moisture), they consider it a matter to be borne in mind and to be subjected to farther inquiries.

The culture of the vine in India, Mr. Du Ponceau added, appears also to engage much of the attention of the Society; and, on the whole, the useful arts and sciences seem to be cultivated in that country to a degree which deserves to be particularly noticed.

Mr. Walker stated the results of Professor Loomis's farther observations on the subject of Galle's second comet, which Prof. L. intends hereafter to lay before the Society. He further stated, that Galle had discovered a third comet, which

was of great interest to the astronomer; as it was likely to add another to the number of comets of known period.

Mr. Walker mentioned the receipt of European observations of Galle's second comet, as late as the 21st of February, and those of Prof. Loomis of the 18th and 19th of March. From these, he had selected the observations made Jan. 25th and Feb. 21st. at the Berlin Observatory, and that of Prof. Loomis at the Hudson Observatory, on the 19th of March; and had computed the elements of its orbit.

The comet's observed geocentric longitude and latitude, cleared of aberration and parallax, and referred to the mean equinox of Jan. 1840, were as follows:—

<i>M. T. Berlin.</i>	<i>Longitude.</i>	<i>Latitude.</i>
25. ^d 49021	2° 57' 26.8''	+ 75° 9' 42.1''
52. 47442	28 44 0.6	+ 33 42 26.1
79. 59679	35 47 34.8	+ 9 22 20.4

from which he had obtained for the elements of the comet;—

Perihelion Pass. March 13.^d07523 Berlin mean time.

Ω 236° 49' 8.0''

i 59 15 8.9

π 80 14 52.8

log. q 0.086798

Motion retrograde.

Dr. Dunglison gave the particulars of a case, in which blood that flowed, on dissection, from the arteries of the brain, coagulated fifteen hours after the death of the individual.

The patient died after a severe agony, and after an illness of some duration, for which mercury had been administered so as to affect the system freely. On opening the head, the arteries of the brain were found turgid with blood; and on removing the brain, the blood flowed from them, and coagulated.

Dr. Dunglison made some remarks on the singularity of this phenomenon, and its relations to physiology and medical jurisprudence, and stated that it completely overthrew the views of those, who believe that the blood is either possessed of a vital influence, or receives some influence from the living vessels that contain it, which maintains its fluidity, and that so soon as it is removed from these

influences it coagulates or dies. In this case the blood remained fluid, and coagulation took place fifteen hours after the total cessation of respiration and circulation, and after the blood had become cold; circumstances showing that the phenomenon is wholly physical in its nature.

Mr. Vaughan reported the death of Benjamin Allen, LL. D., a member of the Society, who died on the 20th of July, 1836, aged 64 years.

On motion of Mr. Vaughan, it was *Resolved*, That Prince Maximilian of Neuwied should be presented with the volumes of the Transactions of the Society since the fourth volume.

Mr. Vaughan further stated, that Prince Maximilian had intimated his intention of presenting to the Society a copy of his Voyage to America, with accompanying Atlas, &c.

The Librarian, in accordance with a resolution of the Society,* presented, for approval, a list of Societies to whom it is proposed to send the proceedings of the Society.

* The resolutions, adopted at a recent meeting (April 3d, 1840,) for the distribution of the Society's proceedings, are as follows:—

First. Twenty copies to be furnished to the Librarian to be retained in the Library.

Secondly. A copy to be sent regularly

a. To members qualified to vote at elections, and to such other members as the Secretaries may think proper.

b. To each of the Societies in correspondence with this Society.

c. To the Editors of such Scientific Journals of the United States and of foreign countries as may be determined upon by the Secretaries.

d. To each subscriber to the Transactions of the Society, not otherwise entitled to a copy.

Thirdly. A copy of the number of the Bulletin, in which their communications are noticed, to be sent to correspondents, not members of the Society.

Fourthly. Any person to be permitted to subscribe for the year, with the Librarian, at such annual subscription price as shall be affixed by the Secretaries.

Fifthly. It shall be the duty of the Librarian to transmit regularly, and as early after the date of publication as practicable, the copies for the various Societies, at home and abroad, which copies shall be furnished him by the Secretaries, duly enveloped, according to a list sanctioned by the Society.

Sixthly. It shall be the duty of the Secretaries to attend to the conservation and distribution of the remainder, as above directed, and they shall be authorized to take such measures for this purpose as they may deem expedient.

The following list was sanctioned.

UNITED STATES.

Albany, Institute.	Harrisburg, Library of State of Pennsylvania.
Boston, Bowditch Library.	Hartford, Society of Natural History.
„ Academy of Sciences.	„ Historical Society.
„ Historical Society of Massachusetts.	Philadelphia, Academy of Natural Sciences.
„ Athenæum.	„ Athenæum.
„ Society of Natural History.	„ Franklin Institute.
„ Statistical Society.	Providence, Rhode Island Historical Society.
Cambridge, Library of Harvard University.	Washington City, Library of Congress.
Georgia Historical Society.	Worcester, Antiquarian Society.

EUROPE.—1. *Great Britain.*

Bath, Bath and West of England Society.	London, Geological Society.
Cambridge, Philosophical Society.	„ Zoological Society.
Dublin, Royal Irish Academy.	„ Linnæan Society.
„ Dublin Society.	„ Royal Geographical Society.
Edinburgh Royal Society.	„ Royal Asiatic Society.
„ Society of Antiquaries.	„ Antiquarian Society.
London, Royal Society.	„ London Institution.
„ Astronomical Society.	„ Royal Institution.
„ Greenwich Observatory.	„ British Association.
„ Horticultural Society.	Manchester, Literary and Philosophical Society.
„ Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce.	Penzance, Royal Cornwall Geological Society.

2. *Continent.*

Amsterdam, Netherlands Institute.	St. Petersburg, Imperial Academy of Sciences.
Haarlem, Hollandish Society of Sciences.	Paris, Institute and Royal Academy of Sciences.
Rotterdam, Batavian Society of Sciences.	„ School of Mines.
Brussels, Royal Academy of Sciences and Belles Lettres.	„ Royal Asiatic Society.
Berlin, Royal Academy of Sciences.	„ Museum of Natural History.
Copenhagen, Royal Academy of Sciences.	„ Society of Antiquaries.
Göttingen, Royal Academy of Sciences.	„ Geographical Society.
Lisbon, Royal Academy of Sciences.	Pesth, Hungarian Academy of Sciences.
Madrid, Royal Academy of History.	Stockholm, Royal Academy of Sciences.
Moscow, Imperial Society of Natural History.	Turin, Royal Academy of Sciences.
	Upsal, Royal Academy of Sciences.

INDIA.

Calcutta, Asiatic Society of Bengal.	Calcutta, Horticultural and Agricultural Society.
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