

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

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VOL. IV.

JAN.—APRIL, 1844.

No. 29.

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*Stated Meeting, January 3.*

Present, twenty-three members.

Dr. PATTERSON, Vice-President, in the Chair.

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

*President.*

Peter S. Duponceau, LL.D.

*Vice-Presidents.*

Nathaniel Chapman, M.D.,  
Robert M. Patterson, M.D.,  
Franklin Bache, M.D.,

*Secretaries.*

John K. Kane.  
Alexander Dallas Bache, LL.D.,  
Robley Dunglison, M.D.,  
Joshua Francis Fisher.

*Counsellors for Three Years.*

Robert Hare, M.D.,  
William Hembel,  
Charles D. Meigs, M.D.,  
Henry Vethake, LL.D.

*Curators.*

Isaac Hays, M.D.,  
Franklin Peale,  
John P. Wetherill.

*Treasurer.*

George Ord.

Letters were received:—

From the Geological Society of London, dated Nov. 2, 1843,—the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, dated November 3, 1843,—the Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin, dated August 15, 1843,—and the Museum of Natural History of Paris, dated Nov. 9, 1843, acknowledging the receipt of Transactions and Proceedings of this Society:—

From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Copenhagen, dated May 12, 1843, and the Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin, dated August 15, 1843, announcing the transmission of donations:—

From Albert Gallatin, dated New York, December 19, 1843, on the subject of certain Maps lent by this Society to the Government of the United States, and announcing that they cannot be recovered in consequence of their having been appropriated to public purposes:—

From Henry Denny, dated Leeds, Nov. 4, 1843, stating the intention of the Philosophical and Literary Society of Leeds to become a correspondent of this Society:—

From B. Silliman, Jr., Secretary of the Association of American Geologists and Naturalists, dated December 23, 1843, announcing that the Annual Meeting of the Association will take place at Washington on the 10th of May next:—

From M. Orazio de St. Angelo, dated New York, December 29, 1843, on the subject of a donation from Signor di Luca, of Naples.

The following donations were announced:—

#### FOR THE LIBRARY.

Address of the Most Noble the Marquis of Northampton, the President, read at the Anniversary Meeting of the Royal Society, on Wednesday, November 30, 1842. 8vo.—*From the Royal Society of London.*

Transactions of the Philosophical and Literary Society of Leeds, consisting of Papers read before the Society. Vol. I. Part 1. London, 1837. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

The Laws and Regulations of the Philosophical and Literary Society

of Leeds, (instituted the 14th of January, 1820), revised and corrected to May 7, 1841. 8vo.—*From the same.*

An Account of an Egyptian Mummy, presented to the Museum of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, by the late John Blayds, Esq. Drawn up at the request of the Council, by Wm. Osburn, Jr., F.R.S., Secretary to the Society. Leeds, 1828. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Reports of the Council on the General State of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, to wit:—Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eleventh, to Twenty-third, inclusive. Sixteen in all. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Abhandlungen der Königlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin. Aus dem Jahre, 1841. Erster Theil. Berlin, 1843. 4to.  
Zweiter Theil. „ „ „  
Dritter Theil. „ „ „

*From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin.*

Bericht über die zur Bekanntmachung geeigneten Verhandlungen der Königl. Preuss. Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin. July to September, 1842—January to June, 1843. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskabs Naturvidenskabelige og Mathematisk Afhandling. Niende Deel. Copenhagen, 1842. 4to.—*From the Royal Society of Sciences of Copenhagen.*

Oversigt over det Kgl. Danske Videnskabernes Selskabs Forhandling og dets Medlemmers Arbeider, i Aaret 1842. Copenhagen, 1843. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society, at their Thirty-first Annual Meeting, held at Worcester, October 23, 1843, with the Address of the Hon. John Davis. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Boston Journal of Natural History. Containing Papers and Communications read before the Boston Society of Natural History, and published by their direction. Vol. IV. No. 3. Boston, 1843. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Journal of the Franklin Institute. 3d Series. Vol. VI. December, 1843. 8vo.—*From Dr. R. M. Patterson.*

The African Repository and Colonial Journal. December, 1843. Vol. XIX. No. 12. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. I. Nov. 1843. No. 11.

- Vol. II. January, 1844. No. 13. 8vo.—*From Lea & Blanchard.*
- The American Journal of the Medical Sciences. Edited by Isaac Hays, M.D. No. XIII. New Series. January, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Editor.*
- Ultimi Progressi della Geografia sunto letto nei dì 16, 21 e 27, Settembre, 1842, alla Sezione di Geologia, Mineralogia e Geografia della quarta Riunione degli Scienziati Italiani, ch'ebbe sede in Padova. Da Jacopo Gräberg da Hemso. Estratto dal 6°. Volume del Politecnico di Milano. 1843. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- History of the Conquest of Mexico, with a Preliminary View of the Ancient Mexican Civilization, and the Life of the Conqueror, Hernando Cortes. By William H. Prescott. New York, 1843. 3 Vols. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- Tables for the Extemporaneous Application of Corrections for Temperature to Barometric Observations. By S. Elliott Hoskins, M.D. Guernsey, 1842. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- Observations of the Aurora Borealis. From Sept. 1834, to Sept. 1839. By Robert Snow, Esq. London, 1842. 12mo.—*From the Author.*
- An Introductory Lecture to the Course of Institutes of Medicine, &c. in Jefferson Medical College: delivered Nov. 8th, 1843, by Prof. Dunglison. 8vo.—*From the Author.*
- Documents of Congress. 27th Congress, 3d Session. House of Representatives, Treasury Department. Doc. 220.—*From the Hon. J. R. Ingersoll.*
- Magazine of Zoology and Botany. Conducted by Sir Wm. Jardine, Bart., P. J. Selby, Esq. and Dr. Johnston. Vols. I. and II. 1836–37–38. Edinburgh. 8vo.—*From Sir William Jardine, Bart.*
- Annals of Natural History; or Magazine of Zoology, Botany and Geology. Being a continuation of the Magazine of Zoology and Botany, and Sir W. J. Hooker's Botanical Companion. Conducted by Sir W. Jardine, Bart., P. J. Selby, Esq., Dr. Johnston, Sir W. J. Hooker, and Richard Taylor. New Series. Nos. 1 to 33, inclusive. London, 1838–40. 5 Vols. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- The Annals and Magazine of Natural History, including Zoology, Botany and Geology. Being a continuation of the Magazine of Botany and Zoology, and of Loudon and Charlesworth's Magazine of Natural History. Conducted by Sir W. Jardine, Bart.,

P. J. Selby, Esq., Dr. Johnston, David Don, Esq. and Richard Taylor. Nos. 34 to 76 inclusive. London, 1840-43. 8vo.—  
*From the same.*

Zoological Contributions. By S. S. Haldeman. No. 2. December, 1843. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

A Monograph of the Linniaides or Fresh water Univalve Shells of North America. By S. Stehman Haldeman. No. 5. July, 1842. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Medicinisches Schriftsteller-Lexicon der jetzt lebenden Verfasser. Von Dr. Adolph Carl Peter Callisen. Neunundzwanzigster Band. HIS-LEM. 8vo. Copenhagen, 1841. Dreissigster Band. LEN-M. 1842. Einunddreissigster Band. N-Rop. 1843.—  
*From the Author.*

#### ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

Astronomische Nachrichten. Nos. 489, 490. October, 1843. 4to.  
The London, Edinburgh, and Dublin Philosophical Magazine and Journal of Science. Third Series. Vol. XXII. April to July, inclusive. Vol. XXIII. July to November, inclusive. Nos. 145 to 153, inclusive.

The Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal, conducted by Professor Jameson. Nos. 62 to 70, inclusive. Edinburgh, 1841-43. 8vo.  
Comptes Rendus Hebdomadaires des Séances de l'Académie des Sciences. Par MM. les Secrétaires Perpétuels. Tome XVII. Nos. 12 to 17, inclusive. Paris. September and October, 1843. 4to.

#### FOR THE CABINET.

A Copy, in type metal, of a Jewish Shekel.—*From Mr. Justice.*

A large Collection of Fossil Bones of the Mastodon, Tetracaulodon, &c., purchased of Mr. Whipple, at the instance of Dr. Hays, by the following named members of the Society, and by them presented to the Cabinet: Dr. Hays, Dr. Patterson, Mr. Kane, Mr. Frazer, Mr. Fraley, Dr. Bache, Rev. Dr. Bethune, Mr. Roberts, Dr. Duglison, Mr. Lea, Dr. Wood, Mr. J. P. Wetherill, Mr. Hembel, Mr. Justice, and Dr. W. E. Horner.

The following notice of the Mastodon bones accompanied the donation:—

“These bones were found in the County of Benton, Missouri, about one-half mile from the river Osage, seventy miles south of the Mis-

souri river, at Boonville; in North latitude,  $38^{\circ} 10'$ , and in  $16^{\circ} 40'$  West longitude. The County of Benton, south of the Osage, and bordering thereon, is characterized for its irregular and broken appearance, running up into extensive ridges, rocky cliffs, and flinty knobs. These elevations, though far from being mountainous, nevertheless, afford views of the surrounding country, beautiful, extensive, and in many instances, sublime. Again valleys intervene, through which meander some streams of water, bordered by alluvial bottoms and lofty forests. It was in such a country as this, to all appearance, that the Mastodon delighted to dwell, and there his bones are found most numerous.

“In one of the valleys named, just at the point where a fertile bottom is connected with a more elevated region, is a small saline marsh, perhaps of an acre in extent. One half of this marsh is covered by a soil different from that composing the marsh, but partaking of the character of a ridge of land, of one-eighth to one-fourth of a mile distant, and which runs parallel with the bottom above-named. This ridge is composed in part of a species of limestone, columns of which are at intervals left standing, and in some instances of from ten to twenty feet elevation above the surrounding portions of the ridge. Between this ridge and the marsh the ground declines gently, and was formerly covered with oak timber. It is now a cultivated field. The soil of this field also bears evidence of having been washed, or otherwise conveyed from the ridge. One-half of the marsh, as above stated, is covered with this soil, and to the extent of about ten feet. It was under this deposit, and to the depth of from two to twelve feet imbedded in the marsh, that these bones were found, lying in the greatest confusion and disorder.

(Signed,)

“S. H. WHIPPLE.”

On motion of Mr. Kane, a Committee was appointed to revise the laws and regulations of the Society. Mr. Kane, Mr. Ord, and Dr. Patterson form the Committee.

Mr. Kane announced the reappointment, by the Secretaries, of Dr. Dungleison as Corresponding Secretary, and also his appointment as Reporter of the Society's Proceedings for the present year.