

SCIENCE

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: S. NEWCOMB, Mathematics; R. S. WOODWARD, Mechanics; E. C. PICKERING, Astronomy; T. C. MENDENHALL, Physics; R. H. THURSTON, Engineering; IRA REMSEN, Chemistry; J. LE CONTE, Geology; W. M. DAVIS, Physiography; HENRY F. OSBORN, Paleontology; W. K. BROOKS, C. HART MERRIAM, Zoology; S. H. SCUDDER, Entomology; C. E. BESSEY, N. L. BRITTON, Botany; C. S. MINOT, Embryology, Histology; H. P. BOWDITCH, Physiology; J. S. BILLINGS, Hygiene; J. MCKEEN CATTELL, Psychology; J. W. POWELL, Anthropology.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1899.

THE ASTRONOMICAL AND ASTROPHYSICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

CONTENTS:

The Astronomical and Astrophysical Society of America, I: PROFESSOR EDWIN B. FROST... 785

Address of the President before the Section of Geography of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, II: SIR JOHN MURRAY..... 796

Recent Progress in Oceanography: A LINDEN-KOHL 803

Observations on Rhythmic Action: DR. E. W. SCRIPTURE..... 807

Geology at the British Association: PROFESSOR W. W. WATTS 812

Scientific Books:—

The Mysterious Mammal of Patagonia: J. B. HATCHER. *The Maryland Weather Service:* R. DEC. WARD. *Cohn on Indicators and Test Papers:* M. T. B. Martin and Müller's *zur Analyse der Unterschiedsempfindlichkeit:* DR. R. S. WOODWORTH. *General, Books Received* 814

Notes on Inorganic Chemistry: J. L. H..... 819

Technical University Degrees: PROFESSOR R. H. THURSTON 820

Lectures at the American Museum of Natural History 821

Scientific Notes and News..... 821

University and Educational News..... 824

I.

THE third conference of Astronomers and Astrophysicists was held at the Yerkes Observatory, in Williams Bay, Wisconsin, on September 6, 7 and 8, 1899, in accordance with arrangements made by a committee appointed at the second conference, held at Harvard College Observatory in August of last year. This committee, consisting of Professors Newcomb, Pickering, Morley, Comstock and Hale, had also been authorized to prepare a constitution and arrange for the organization of a permanent society. At the second session of the conference the constitution was adopted, substantially as presented by the committee, and at the last session, on September 8th, the organization was completed with the election of the following officers:

President, Simon Newcomb; Vice-Presidents, C. A. Young, G. E. Hale; Secretary, G. C. Comstock; Treasurer, C. L. Doolittle; Councilors, for two years, E. C. Pickering, J. E. Keeler; Councilors, for one year, E. W. Morley, Ormond Stone.

The undersigned will temporarily act as Secretary.

At a subsequent meeting of the Council by-laws were adopted. It was further voted that a report of the proceedings should be furnished for publication in SCIENCE, to-

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.