FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1902.

CONTENTS:
Address to the Engineering Section of the
British Association: PROFESSOR JOHN
Perry ............................. 761
In Memory of John Wesley Powell: Professor
S. P. LANGLEY, RICHARD RATHBUN, DR. W.
H. DALL, DR. D. C. GILMAN, DR. CHARLES
D. WALTZOT, COMMISSIONER W. T. HARRIS,
MARCUS BAKER, DR. W J MCGEE........ 782
Scientific Books:—
Heusler's Chemistry of the Terpenes: PROFES-
SOR EDWARD KREEMERS............. 790
Societies and Academies:—
The American Mathematical Society: Profes-
sor F. N. COLE..................... 791
Discussion and Correspondence:—
The Carnegie Institution: DR. C. H. EIGEN-
MANN. Section H, Anthropology, of the
American Association for the Advancement
of Science: ROLAND B. DIXON........ 792
Shorter Articles:—
Exceptions to Mendel's Law: W. J. SPIL-
MAN ................................ 794
Notes on Inorganic Chemistry: J. L. H........ 796
The Comet B, 1902, and the Mass of Mercury:
Professor Edward C. PICKERING........ 797
Scientific Notes and News .............. 798
University and Educational News....... 800

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ADDRESS TO THE ENGINEERING SECTION
OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.*

This Section has had sixty-six presi-
dents, all different types of engineer. As
each has had perfect freedom in choosing
the subject for his address, and each has
known of the rule† that presidential ad-
dresses are not subject to debate after-
wards, and as, being an engineer, he has
always been a man of originality, of course
he has always chosen a subject outside his
own work. An engineer knows that the
great inventions, the great suggestions of
change in any profession, come from out-
siders. Lawyers seem like fish out of water
when trying to act as law-makers. The
radical change that some of us hope to see
before we die in the construction of loco-
motives will certainly not come from a
locomotive superintendent, who cannot im-
age a locomotive which is not somehow
a lineal desendent of the Rocket.

Hence it is that in almost every case the
President of this Section has devoted a
small or large part of his address to the
subject of the education of engineers. I
grant that every president has devoted his
life to the education of one engineer—him-

* Given at the Belfast meeting.
† The Committees of Sections G and L have
arranged a discussion on 'The Education of Engi-
ners,' this address being regarded as opening the
discussion. Thus the rule is not in force this
year.