

SCIENCE

A Weekly Journal devoted to the Advancement of Science, publishing the official notices and proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, edited by J. McKeen Cattell and published every Friday by

THE SCIENCE PRESS

11 Liberty St., Utica, N. Y. Garrison, N. Y.
New York City: Grand Central Terminal

Annual Subscription, \$6.00 Single Copies, 15 Cts.

Entered as second-class matter January 21, 1922, at the Post Office at Utica, N. Y., Under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOL. LVI OCTOBER 27, 1922 No. 1452

CONTENTS

<i>William Stewart Halsted: H. C.</i>	461
<i>Earth Currents and Magnetic Variations:</i>	
PROFESSOR FERNANDO SANFORD.....	464
<i>Research at the Tortugas Laboratory: PRO-</i>	
FESSOR A. A. SCHAEFFER.....	468
<i>The Mount Everest Expedition</i>	470
<i>Scientific Events:</i>	
<i>Nitrates in Southeastern California; The</i>	
<i>Dedication of the Sterling Laboratory of</i>	
<i>Yale University; The Joseph Sullivant</i>	
<i>Medal; Installation of the President of</i>	
<i>Lehigh University</i>	471
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	474
<i>University and Educational Notes</i>	477
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:</i>	
<i>Some Seismological Evidence that is not</i>	
<i>evident: DR. JAMES B. MACELWANE. The</i>	
<i>Beginnings of American Geology: DR.</i>	
<i>MARCUS BENJAMIN. An Opportunity: DR.</i>	
<i>VERNON KELLOGG</i>	478
<i>Scientific Books:</i>	
<i>Emil Fischer's Aus meinem Leben: DR.</i>	
<i>BENJAMIN HARROW</i>	482
<i>Notes on Meteorology and Climatology:</i>	
<i>A New Aerological Summary: DR. LEROY</i>	
<i>L. MEISINGER</i>	482
<i>Special Articles:</i>	
<i>Deficiency of Atmospheric Dust in Coal:</i>	
<i>DR. WALDO S. GLOCK</i>	484
<i>The American Chemical Society: DR. CHARLES</i>	
<i>L. PARSONS</i>	485

WILLIAM STEWART HALSTED, 1852-1922

PROFESSOR HALSTED, certainly one of the most cultivated, and regarded by many as the most eminent surgeon of his time, in view of the character of his contributions, died at noon on Thursday, the seventh of September, in the Johns Hopkins Hospital, of which he had been surgeon-in-chief since soon after its opening. At that time, in 1889, neither he nor his clinical colleagues, Osler and Kelly, had as yet turned forty.

A man of unique personality, shy, something of a recluse, fastidious in his tastes and in his friendships, an aristocrat in his breeding, scholarly in his habits, the victim for many years of indifferent health, he nevertheless was one of the few American surgeons who may be considered to have established a school of surgery, comparable, in a sense, to the school of Billroth in Vienna. He had few of the qualities supposed to accompany what the world regards as a successful surgeon. Over-modest about his work, indifferent to matters of priority, caring little for the gregarious gatherings of medical men, unassuming, having little interest in private practice, he spent his medical life avoiding patients—even students, when this was possible—and, when health permitted, working in clinic and laboratory at the solution of a succession of problems which aroused his interest. He had that rare form of imagination which sees problems, and the technical ability combined with persistence which enabled him to attack them with promise of a successful issue. Many of his contributions, not only to his craft but to the science of medicine in general, were fundamental in character and of enduring importance.

As a schoolboy at Phillips-Andover and as an undergraduate at Yale, he was prominent in sports rather than in the class-room, and in

Science

56 (1452)

Science **56** (1452), 461-494.

ARTICLE TOOLS

<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/56/1452.citation>

PERMISSIONS

<http://www.sciencemag.org/help/reprints-and-permissions>

Use of this article is subject to the [Terms of Service](#)

Science (print ISSN 0036-8075; online ISSN 1095-9203) is published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1200 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005. The title *Science* is a registered trademark of AAAS.

Copyright © 1922 The Authors, some rights reserved; exclusive licensee American Association for the Advancement of Science. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.