
OBITUARY.

MR. THEODORE A. HAVEMEYER, for many years a life associate member of the American Chemical Society, died at his home in New York City, on April 26. He was born in that city in 1839, and practically his whole life was devoted to the industry of sugar refining, in which he came to take such a prominent position in this country. The facts of his successful career, which will be of interest to the members of the Society, are so well set forth in an article in the *New York Sun* of April 26th, that we cannot do better than reproduce it.

“Theodore A. Havemeyer was of the third generation of the Havemeyers, noted for their great sugar industry in this country. He was the son of Frederick C. Havemeyer, whose father, Frederick Charles Havemeyer, with his brother, William S. Havemeyer, started a refinery in Vanderveer street, this city, in 1800.

“Frederick C., the father of Theodore A. and Henry O. Havemeyer, retired from the business in 1835, but in 1858 went into the business again for his sons, purchasing an interest in the Williamsburg Husse warehouse property.

“From that beginning grew the business that to-day practically controls the sugar industry of this country, and has a marked influence on that of the world. Every year the large brick factory between South Third and South Fourth streets was improved, and the four sons, associating in business with their brother-in-law, established the firm of Havemeyer & Elder.

“The firm took a lead in the sugar refining business from the start. They had fifty men in their employ at first, and the business increased until before the recent consolidation of many refineries throughout the country by them the factory there employed nearly 4,000 men.

“Of the four brothers who started in the business, Henry O. Havemeyer now alone remains. George Havemeyer was killed at the refinery in 1862, and Thomas Havemeyer afterward retired from the business.

“In speaking of the causes of his success in business some years ago, Theodore Havemeyer said :

“We were taught our business thoroughly. After leaving school I was sent to Europe to learn all I could concerning the business I was to follow for a livelihood. In 1857 I went to the Hamburg refineries, and thence, after quite a lengthy experience, I went to other cities of Germany, where I gained a knowledge of the most advanced methods of that day. On my return, in 1859, I went into my uncle's refinery in Vanderveer street, and from there I went into the business in Williamsburg. I made up my mind from the start that whatever was worth doing at all was

worth doing well. For twenty-five years I was at work at 7 A.M. and did not leave the refinery until 7 P. M. I never went to bed at night until I had gone through the whole establishment. Many times I worked all the night long. While I was a single man my expenses never exceeded \$50 a month. Pilot bread and cheese made for me many a meal. A canvas suit was my daily apparel, and there was no part of the business at which I and my brothers did not work ; no part we considered too dirty or too arduous or beneath us.

“One prerequisite in any business is a thorough mastery of its principles and a knowledge of all its details. There was no part of the manufactory or no part of the refining business with which we were not thoroughly familiar. I knew how to fire up under the boilers, how to run the engines. I built an engine once myself. I knew how to refine the sugar and how to market it. I knew what was a fair day's work for a man, because I worked alongside of the men. Another requisite is application and alertness. We were always on the lookout for some better way to do a thing, and our success is largely owing to invention brought out by observation and experiment. Another need is integrity and promptness in business dealings. We always paid cash as we went along, but if one has to give notes they should be promptly met. We filled our orders always according to agreement. Another rule is to keep away from liquor, and we always followed it. The practice of these rules, combined with frugality and ordinary facilities of mind, will bring commercial success to any man.’

“The Havemeyers invented many labor-saving machines and methods, and by means of these and the immense capital employed, sugar, which was refined in their grandfather's time on a margin of 10 cents a pound, and in their father's time at 4 cents a pound, is to-day refined for 1 cent a pound.

“It was not alone in the sugar refining business that Theodore A. Havemeyer was prominent. His banking and real estate interests were enormous.

“Mr. Havemeyer was greatly interested in agriculture, and had one of the finest stock farms in the country at Rahway, N. J. Besides his handsome residence in this city, he had a magnificent summer home at Newport. He was interested in golf, and was really the father of golf in this country. He was President of the American Golf Association at the time of his death.

“For twenty-five years Mr. Havemeyer was the Austrian Consul-General in this city, having been appointed to succeed his father-in-law, Ritter von Loesy, in 1871. He resigned in 1895, and immediately there was much talk to the effect that he was to be ennobled by the Austrian Emperor.

“Mr. Havemeyer was 58 years old at the time of his death. He

was married 33 years ago to a daughter of Chevalier de Loesy, the then Austrian Consul-General here. He leaves a widow and nine children.''
WM. McMURTRIE.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Variety Tests of Fruits. Tests of Vegetable Seeds. Bulletin No. 44. March, 1897. 48 pp. Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Illinois, Urbana. Ill.

The Synchronograph. A New Method of Rapidly Transmitting Intelligence by the Alternating Current. By Albert C. Crehore and George O. Squier. Reprinted from Vol. 14 of the Transactions of American Institute of Electrical Engineers, N. Y. City. 31 pp.

Relations Between the Melting Points and the Latent Heats of Fusion of the Metals. By Joseph W. Richards. 5 pp. Reprinted from the Journal of the Franklin Institute, May, 1897.

Water and Public Health. The Relative Purity of Waters from Different Sources. By James H. Fuertes. x+75 pp. New York: John Wiley & Sons. Price, \$1.50.

A Page from the Chemistry of To-day. By Charles A. Doremus, A.M., M.D., Ph.D. 23 pp. Press of J. J. O'Brien & Son, New York.

The Story of the Chemical Elements. By M. M. Pattison Muir, M. A. 189 pp. London: George Newnes, Ltd. Price, 50 Cents.

The Book of the Dairy. A Manual of the Science and Practice of Dairy Work. Translated from the German of W. Fleischmann, Ph. D., by C. M. Aikman and R. Patrick Wright. xxiv+344 pp. London: Blackie & Son; and New York: D. Van Nostrand Co. Price, \$4.00.

Ninth Annual Report of the Storrs Agricultural Experiment Station, Storrs, Conn. 1896. 292 pp. Report of the Director: Bacteria in the Dairy; Study of Rations Fed to Milch Cows in Connecticut; Investigations on Metabolism in the Human Organism—Preliminary Account of Experiments on the Income and Outgo of the body and the Effects of Different Diets; Studies in Dietaries; Various Digestion Experiments; Average Composition of American Food Materials; Field Experiments with Fertilizers; Analyses of Fodders and Feeding Stuffs.

Proceedings of the Thirteenth Annual Convention of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists held at Washington, D. C., November 6, 7, and 9, 1896. Edited by Harvey W. Wiley, Secretary of the Association. Bulletin No. 49, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Chemistry. 1897. 127 pp. Washington: Government Printing Office.

ERRATA.

Page 390 (May number), line 9, for "bicarbonate" read "bichromate."

Page 414, Series 8, line 6, for "numbers" read "number."

Pages 420 and 421, at head of 3d column in tables, erase "Gms.," (these numbers referring to cc. silver nitrate when amount of interferent is 0).

Page 427, Set III, second column, for "0.5" read "0.0."