

THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

XXV.—PROCEEDINGS.

Regular Meeting, September 4, 1879.

THE meeting was called to order by the Secretary, and on motion, Dr. Endemann took the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. The following gentlemen were proposed for membership :

Dr. Giesecke, proposed by Mr. Nichols, seconded by Messrs. Endemann and Bourgougnon ; C. Tessié du Motay, proposed by Mr. Bourgougnon, seconded by Messrs. Casamajor and Rossi ; Mr. Thomas Harmer, proposed by Dr. Endemann, seconded by Messrs. Nichols and Goldschmidt.

The Secretary called upon the Chair to name a committee of three to prepare a list of officers for the ensuing year, to be voted for at the next December meeting. The Chairman then called the attention to the objections raised to the plan heretofore adopted by the Society for the nomination of its officers.

Dr. Alsberg spoke of the difficulties experienced by him while Secretary. Dr. Goldschmidt proposed the Hassard plan of requesting the members to make the nominations for officers, the two names receiving the highest number of votes to receive the nominations, and to be voted on at the December meeting. Mr. Casamajor moved that the chairman appoint a committee of three to report at the October meeting a plan for the nomination of officers for the ensuing year. The chair appointed as such committee Messrs. Squibb, Casamajor and Alsberg.

The Treasurer stated that at the next meeting of the Society he should move that the dues of the resident members should be increased to ten dollars per annum.

The Secretary announced the death of Mr. F. A. Cairns.

The paper of the evening, "Analyses of Air," by Wm. Van Slooten, was then read by the Secretary. A paper on "A New Sulphur Compound of Urea," by J. H. Stebbins, Jr., was announced for the next meeting. Dr. Endemann gave a brief ab-

stract of Meyer's paper on "The Dissociation of Chlorine at High Temperatures," read before the German Chemical Society, after which the Society adjourned.

S. A. GOLDSCHMIDT,
Recording Secretary.

Abstracts from Foreign and American Journals.

Bulletin de la Société Chimique de Paris.

Abstractor, E. H. S. BAILEY, PH. B.

Vol. XXXI, No. 7, April 5, 1879.

A Discussion of the Hydrocarbons Obtained from American Petroleum, L. PRUNIER.—The details of these experiments are given in Bull. Soc. Chim., 31, 158. A résumé of the works is included in this article, with special mention of new hydrocarbons, which have a very high percentage of carbon.

On Iodide of Potassic Iodide, A. GUYARD.—This substance, which is made by dissolving 3 parts of iodine in an aqueous solution containing 4 parts of iodide of potassium, is not a simple solution, but a chemical compound, KI_2 . That this is the case, is abundantly proved by precipitation with metallic salts. Biniodide of potassium may be used as a test for methyl alcohol, for if added to a slightly alkaline solution of this alcohol, it produces an abundant precipitate of iodoform, while with ethyl alcohol none is produced.

On the Action of Oxalic Acid Upon Chlorates, Bromates and Iodates, A. GUYARD.—If a mixture of chlorates, bromates and iodates, be treated with a boiling saturated solution of oxalic acid, chlorates are first decomposed, chlorine being set free; then bromates, with separation of bromine; then iodates, with separation of iodine. One is completely decomposed before the next is attacked; it is advisable to add a little oxalic acid at the time, to bring about gradual decomposition. It is proposed to apply these important reactions to the commercial separation of these elements.

On a Process for the Separation and Determination of Chlorine, Bromine and Iodine, A. GUYARD.—Noticed elsewhere.

On the Decomposition of Hydracids by Metals, M. BERTHELOT.—If we examine the list of metals classified according to their