

## THE NEWPORT MEETING.

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In accordance with the provisions of the revised constitution of the American Chemical Society (Art. VII, Section 2), and in pursuance of a resolution of the Society passed at the regular meeting, June 6, 1890, the Board of Directors, on July 22, called a general meeting of the Society at Newport, R. I., Aug. 6 and 7, 1890. Owing to the unavoidable shortness of the notice given, it was feared that no adequate attendance of chemists could be secured, and the meeting was regarded more as an introduction to a series of general meetings to be held hereafter than as a test of the favor which might be expected for the new plan from the chemists of the country.

The meeting has been a great success, however, and it was regarded by those present as fully equal, both in general interest and in scientific gain, to any gathering of chemists ever held in America.

Over forty chemists attended the meeting, and, together with friends who accompanied them and citizens of Newport who took part in the entertainment of the visitors, made the occasion an attractive one in its social as well as in its professional aspect.

Seventeen papers were read and these, with the discussions upon them and the general business of the meeting, fully occupied the morning sessions. A list of these papers is given in the programme, page 252. The time of the meeting was so divided as to allow the hours from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M. to be given to the reading of papers, business, etc. At 1 P. M. a luncheon, provided each day through the kindness of the local committee, was served in a room adjoining the hall.

At 2 P. M. the visitors were taken upon steam launches, provided by the local committee to points of interests about Newport harbor and the afternoon spent in sailing each day was a pleasant relaxation after the work of the morning. Wednesday evening was

given up to social intercourse amongst the visitors, and on Thursday evening the reception given by Prof. J. P. Cooke was a fitting conclusion to the long series of courtesies offered by the local committee.

During the meeting a collection of chemical apparatus was exhibited in a room adjoining the hall. It is hoped that at general meetings in future this feature will be much more fully developed. Invitations were sent to many dealers in chemical apparatus, but the notice of the meeting was too short for proper efforts in this direction.

The meeting was opened Wednesday, August 6th, at 10 A. M. (See minutes of meeting.)

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

Members and invited guests met at the Ferry at 2:30, and were taken on a government launch to the United States Naval Torpedo Station, situated on an island in the harbor opposite Newport, where they were met by Commander T. F. Jewell, U. S. N., in charge of the Torpedo Station, through whose courtesy the museum, laboratory and shops of the station were opened to the party. The historical collection of torpedoes and models was shown, including torpedoes of modern construction, ready for use. At the laboratory Prof. C. E. Munroe explained the action of a number of high explosives and showed the results of experiments in crushing and rupturing of metallic plates. Afterwards several submarine torpedoes were exploded in the harbor, and a series of tests with high explosives was made. Discs of compressed gun cotton, dynamite, etc., were detonated upon plates of wrought iron; compressed gun cotton was partly burned in an open fire and then exploded by detonation. A naked disc of gun cotton bearing the impressed letters A. C. S. was detonated upon an iron plate, and the letters were shown to be clearly impressed upon the metal afterwards. A "necklace" of discs of gun cotton was hung about the top of a wooden post twelve inches in cross section and the timber was cut off squarely by detonation of the cotton.

At 4 o'clock the party were taken to the United States Naval Training Station, also located on an island in the harbor, where,

through the courtesy of Capt. Stanton, U. S. N., commanding, they witnessed a parade of the battalion of boys belonging to the station. Afterward they were entertained at the officers' quarters, and, before leaving, were shown the barracks and drill room under the guidance of Surgeon C. A. Siegfried, U. S. N. The return to Newport was made at 6 P. M.

## THURSDAY, AUG. 7.

## MORNING.

The meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock. (See minutes of meeting.)

## AFTERNOON.

2 o'clock.—Through the courtesy of the local committee an excursion in Newport harbor was provided. The larger portion of the visitors were taken on a government launch under the guidance of Major Livermore, and after sailing about the harbor, were landed at Fort Adams at 4 P. M. A smaller party took passage on the Herreshoff torpedo boat Stiletto, which was kindly placed at their service by Commander Jewell, and made a tour of about thirty miles around the island of Conanicut. The great speed of the little boat and the perfection of her machinery called forth much enthusiastic comment. The Stiletto reached Fort Adams before four o'clock and the united party of visitors were taken to the artillery parade ground, where, through the courtesy of Col. John Mendenhall, commanding, they spent an hour in watching the evolutions of a battery of artillery, consisting of four field pieces, with its full complement of men and horses. After a number of rounds had been fired by the battery the guests were permitted to inspect the mechanism of the breech loading guns. Returning to the boats, a stop was made to examine the large guns of the Fort.

The party returned to Newport at 6 o'clock.

The reception given to the chemists attending the meeting by Prof. J. P. Cooke, at his home, cor. Gibbs avenue and Beach street, Newport, was very fully attended. Many specimens of meteorites from the collection of Prof. Cooke were shown during the evening.

The following is a list of chemists who attended the meeting, as taken from the register kept at the office of Mr. A. O. D. Taylor, of the local committee :

- Prof. John H. Appleton, Brown University, Providence, R. I.  
Elias H. Bartley, M. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Marcus Benjamin, Ph. D., New York.  
William B. Bentley.  
Prof. A. A. Breneman, New York.  
Edwin C. Calder, Providence, R. I.  
Prof. C. F. Chandler, Columbia College, New York.  
Prof. F. W. Clarke, chief chemist, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.  
Prof. Josiah P. Cooke, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.  
William D. Crumbie, U. S. Laboratory, New York.  
Prof. A. E. Dolbear, Tuft's College, Medford, Mass.  
Prof. C. A. Doremus, City College, New York.  
Dr. L. H. Friedburg, City College, New York.  
Dr. Wolcott Gibbs, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.  
Martin L. Griffin, Holyoke, Mass.  
Prof. Albert C. Hale, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Dr. A. P. Hallock, New York.  
Dr. Walter H. Kent, Board of Health, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Major W. R. Livermore, U. S. A., Newport, R. I.  
Dr. Morris Loeb, Clark University, Worcester, Mass.  
Prof. W. M. McMurtrie, New York.  
Prof. E. W. Morley, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.  
Prof. Charles E. Munroe, U. S. Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I.  
E. B. Newbury, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.  
Lyman C. Newell, Pawtucket, R. I.  
C. F. Parker, U. S. A., Newport, R. I.  
G. W. Patterson, U. S. Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I.  
Charles M. Perry, Providence, R. I.  
Dr. C. A. Pitkin, Thayer Academy, South Braintree, Mass.  
Lucius Pitkin, Ph. B., New York.  
William R. Potter, Providence, R. I.  
Frederic Read, New York.

William Rupp, New York.

Prof. A. H. Sabine, Long Island City, New York.

Edward Sherer, U. S. Laboratory, New York.

C. A. Siegfried, Surgeon U. S. N., Newport, R. I.

Herbert E. Smith, New Haven, Conn.

Frank E. Thompson, Head Master Rogers High School, Newport, R. I.

J. H. Wainwright, Ph. B., U. S. Laboratory, New York.

Lieut. Willoughby Walke, 2d U. S. Artillery, Fort Monroe, Va.

Prof. Elwyn Waller, Columbia College, New York.

Arthur W. Wellington, Newport, R. I.

Dr. H. J. Wheeler, Experiment Station, Kingston, R. I.

#### LOCAL COMMITTEE.

Prof. Charles E. Munroe, *Chairman*.

Dr. J. P. Cooke.

Dr. Wolcott Gibbs.

Major T. K. Gibbs.

Commander T. F. Jewell, U. S. N.

Major W. R. Livermore, Eng. Corps, U. S. A.

Dr. C. A. Siegfried, Surgeon, U. S. N.

Dr. T. A. Kenefick.

A. O'D. Taylor, Esq., Secretary Newport Natural History Society.

C. A. Pitkin, Ph. D.

F. E. Thompson, Head Master Rogers High School.

Lt. C. DeW. Wilcox, 2d Art., U. S. A.

F. Bradley, D. M. D.

G. W. Patterson, Esq.

#### COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

Prof. A. A. Breneman, *Chairman*.

Prof. C. F. Chandler.

William Rupp.

C. F. McKenna.

J. F. Geisler.

MINUTES OF THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, HELD AT  
MASONIC HALL, NEWPORT, R. I.  
AUGUST 6 AND 7, 1890.

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FIRST DAY—AUGUST 6.

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 A.M. by Prof. Charles F. Chandler, chairman. Prof. Albert C. Hale was appointed secretary.

An address of welcome in behalf of the citizens of Newport was then presented by Col. John Hare Powel, Ex-Mayor of Newport, and a descendant of Dr. Robert Hare of Philadelphia.

In the response by the Chairman, Prof. Chandler, a brief resumé of the organization and history of the Society was given, and special reference was made to the recent revision of the Constitution, under which this first general meeting was called.

Letters of regret were then read from the following members, who were unable to attend the meeting, viz.:

President, H. B. Nason, Troy, N. Y.; Dr. F. A. Genth, Philadelphia; Dr. T. Sterry Hunt, New York; Prof. Henry Morton, Hoboken.

The reading of papers being in order, the following papers were presented:

“Determination of the Strength of various High Explosives.”  
—Willoughby Walke.

“The Volumetric Composition of Water.”—E. W. Morley.

“On Carbon as an Impurity Affecting the Determination of the Atomic Weight of Hydrogen.”—E. W. Morley.

“A New Form of Air Thermometer for Technical Uses.”—A. H. Sabine.

“A New Apparatus and an Improved Method for the Estimation of Urea.”—E. H. Bartley.

“On Resins.”—L. H. Friedburg.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.50.

## SECOND DAY—AUGUST 7.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Prof. C. F. Chandler at 10.15 A.M.

An announcement was made by Prof. C. E. Munroe regarding the afternoon excursion on the U. S. Torpedo boat "Stiletto."

An invitation was given the members and guests of the Society, by Prof. Josiah P. Cooke, to attend an informal reception at his home, Gibbs ave. and Beach street, Thursday evening between 7 and 9 o'clock.

On motion of Prof. A. A. Breneman, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, the following votes of thanks were extended :

- I.—To the Members of the Local Committee.
- II.—To Col. John Mendenhall, U. S. A., commanding Fort Adams,  
Capt. Oscar F. Stanton, U. S. N., commanding U. S.  
Naval Training Station,  
Com. T. F. Jewell, U. S. N., commanding Torpedo Station,  
Major W. R. Livermore, Eng. Corps, U. S. A.
- III.—To the Newport Natural History Society for the offer of its  
rooms for the meeting.
- IV.—To the Citizens of Newport for their kindness and courtesy.

The Chairman then announced an informal discussion regarding the more general organization of chemists in America. On motion of Dr. Waller, it was voted that all chemists present be invited to present their views freely, and have all privileges of discussion and voting upon the subject.

After some introductory remarks by Prof. Chandler, Prof. Clarke opened the discussion by presenting a brief history of the new movement for a proposed "Continental" Society. He was followed by Dr. Wolcott Gibbs, Dr. J. P. Cooke, Maj. Livermore, Dr. C. A. Doremus, Dr. Morris Loeb, Prof. A. H. Sabine, Prof. A. A. Breneman, Prof. Albert C. Hale, Dr. Waller, and others. Dr. Waller moved that the Chair appoint three members of the American Chemical Society to represent that society at a conference of representatives of various societies and chemists in this country, the time and place of said conference to be left indefinite. This motion was carried. Prof. McMurtrie moved that details be left with the chair. Carried.

The following names were then read as applicants for membership :

Dr. C. E. Pellew, New York.

Dr. H. J. Wheeler, Kingston, R. I.

Dr. J. H. Washburn, Kingston, R. I.

Prof. Chas. E. Brewer, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, N. C.

Dr. P. T. Austen, Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.

Dr. Edward S. Wood, Harvard Med. School, Cambridge, Mass.

Dr. Geo. Archbold, U. S. Navy Yard, Washington, D. C.

Dr. Chas. G. Curtman, 3718 N. 9th street, St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. Stephen H. Emmens, Emmensite Explosive and Ammunition Co., Emmens, Pa.

Major W. R. Livermore, Eng. Corps, U. S. A., Newport, R. I.

Chas. A. Pitkin, A. M., Ph. D., Thayer Academy, So. Braintree, Mass.

Louis H. Laudy, Ph. D., School of Mines, Columbia College, N. Y.

F. E. Thompson, Roger's High School, Newport, R. I.

George W. Patterson, Torpedo Station, Newport, R. I.

The reading of papers being in order, the following were presented :

\*" On the Perissad Law."—W. R. Livermore.

" On the Relative Intensity of Chemical Force."—L. H. Friedburg.

" On Bütschli's Experimental Imitation of Protoplasm."—C. A. Siegfried.

\*" Notes on Water Analysis by the Ammonia Method with some new Apparatus."—A. A. Breneman.

†" On the Chemical Work of the United States Geological Survey."—F. W. Clarke.

†" On Grass Oils."—F. D. Dodge.

†" On the Action of the Nitrils on Organic Acids."—C. E. Colby and F. D. Dodge.

†" On the Influence Method as a Test for Explosives."—C. E. Munroe.

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\* To appear in the October number.

† These papers were merely notes in advance of publications from articles that had already been given to other journals.

‡ Withheld temporarily from publication for official purposes.



“ On the Use of the Gooch Crucible as a Silver Voltameter.”  
—Morris Loeb.

“ On the Extraction of Indigotin from Commercial Indigo.”—  
T. A. Morgan.

“ On the Uses of Fluorine for the Softening of Hard Water.”—  
C. A. Doremus.

The meeting was then adjourned.

ALBERT C. HALE, Secretary.