

THE ALCHEMICAL ESSENCE AND THE CHEMICAL ELEMENT. AN EPISODE IN THE QUEST OF THE UNCHANGING. BY M. M. PATTISON MUIR. pp. 94. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1894. Price \$1.50.

This essay is a study "of the endeavors that men have made to give definiteness to the conception of unity of material phenomena" in the domain of chemistry. The discoveries and theories of the alchemists are summed up with no lack of appreciation, and the author proposes to judge the value of alchemical conceptions by finding "what results flowed from applying these conceptions to the study of nature." What, secondly, has chemistry accomplished by "examining material changes accurately and critically?"

The answers are given with dignity and fairness. The book is interesting; it seems intended for, and is adapted to the use of intelligent people who are not chemists, and contains home thrusts at some who are called "Modern Alchemists."

NINTH GENERAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

CIRCULAR OF ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE Ninth General Meeting of the AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY will be held in Brooklyn, N. Y., on Wednesday and Thursday, August 15th and 16th, 1894. The first session will be held at 10 A. M., August 15th, in room 42 of the Polytechnic Institute, No. 99 Livingston street. After the session, at 1.30 P. M., it is expected that a steamer will leave one of the wharves of the East river taking the chemists to the New York side where a lunch will be served at the mineral water establishment of Mr. Carl H. Schultz. After lunch there will be an opportunity to inspect the manufactory, and then the steamer will proceed to the U. S. Artillery School at Willet's Point, stopping at intermediate places of interest, and returning to Brooklyn in the evening.

The morning session on Thursday will begin at 9 A. M., and later in the day visits will be made to manufactories in the vicinity, returning in time for the address of Vice-President Norton before Section C of A. A. A. S., at 4:30 P. M.

Invitations have been received to visit various chemical establishments and places of scientific interest, and the local committee will arrange for such visits at convenient times during the two days appointed for the meeting of the American Chemical Society and the remaining days of the week, as the chemists who remain to participate in the meetings of the A. A. A. S. will undoubtedly be glad to avail themselves of such opportunities. The local committee of arrangements for the meetings of the A. A. A. S., and the other bodies which will be in session in Brooklyn at or near the same date, have secured for all of these organizations railroad rates of one and one-third fare for the round trip to Brooklyn or New York and return, under the following conditions:

(1) Each person, in order to secure said rates, must purchase a first-class ticket to Brooklyn or New York and pay full fare therefor, obtaining from the ticket agent a certificate to that effect upon a regular printed form. Such certificates will be available from August 10th—five days before the opening of the meeting. In case the agent at the starting point is not supplied with certificates or cannot give through tickets, the regular fare must be paid to the nearest station where such certificates can be obtained.

(2) These certificates must be deposited by holders, on their arrival at Brooklyn, with the Local Secretary, Prof. Geo. W. Plympton, who will return them when desired for the return trip.

(3) Before presenting these certificates at the ticket office in Brooklyn for obtaining return tickets they must be filled in on the back by the Local Secretary and also countersigned by the Special Agent of the Trunk Line Association. The Special Agent will be in attendance August 16th, 18th, 20th, and 24th.

(4) Certificates and return tickets are not transferable and the certificates will not be received by the Ticket Agents in Brooklyn after August 31st.

ALBERT C. HALE,

Gen. Sec'y of the American Chemical Society.