

PROCEEDINGS.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 29, 1903, AT THE HALL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN BOSTON.

THE meeting was called to order by the President, Hon. STEPHEN SALISBURY.

The following members were present:— . . .

George F. Hoar, Nathaniel Paine, Stephen Salisbury, Samuel A. Green, Elijah B. Stoddard, Edward L. Davis, James F. Hunnewell, Egbert C. Smyth, Edward H. Hall, Charles C. Smith, Edmund M. Barton, Charles A. Chase, Samuel S. Green, Henry W. Haynes, Andrew McF. Davis, Horatio Rogers, Henry S. Nourse, Daniel Merriman, William B. Weeden, Reuben Colton, Henry H. Edes, James Phinney Baxter, Charles P. Bowditch, Calvin Stebbins, Rockwood Hoar, William DeLoss Love, William T. Forbes, George H. Haynes, Charles L. Nichols, Waldo Lincoln, Edward S. Morse, John Noble, Austin S. Garver, A. Lawrence Rotch, Francis Blake, Samuel Utley, Edward H. Gilbert, Benjamin T. Hill, Henry F. Jenks, Allen C. Thomas, Alexander F. Chamberlain, William MacDonald, Roger B. Merriman.

An abstract of the doings of the previous meeting was read by the Recording Secretary, the full report being in printed form and in the hands of members.

The report of the Council, prepared by NATHANIEL PAINE, A.M., was next presented.

The report of the Librarian was read by Mr. EDMUND M. BARTON.

It was voted that the full report of the Council be approved, and published in the proceedings of the meeting.

A memoir of Hon. JOHN DAVIS WASHBURN was read by the Biographer, HENRY S. NOURSE, A.M. Before presenting the paper Mr. NOURSE said: "In beginning the duties of the office which has been assigned to me recently I do so with due diffidence. I should not have assumed the duties had I not been assured by the President and Council that no lengthy memoirs were required, and no lofty eulogy is expected. Whatever tributes I have to pay will be brief, relating to simple biographical and genealogical facts, and the relation of the deceased to this Society; and this of course is appropriate, because those associates who have been guilty of distinguished careers will have suffered sufficiently from the pens of numerous writers before our Proceedings can be published. Since I have been appointed, there has been but one death in the Society, Hon. John Davis Washburn."

The Recording Secretary read the list of nominations for membership. There were three vacancies, and the Council recommended for election the following named gentlemen:—

Anson Daniel Morse, LL.D., Professor of History at Amherst College.

Edward Gaylord Bourne, Ph.D., Professor of History at Yale University.

Rt. Rev. Alexander Hamilton Vinton, D.D., of Springfield, Bishop of Western Massachusetts.

The nominees were duly elected on separate ballots.

Prof. ALLEN C. THOMAS, of Haverford College, Pennsylvania, read some letters, &c., of John Hancock and Thomas Cushing.

Vice-President HOAR said :—

I make this communication in behalf of a friend in Worcester, Mr. James Green. Mr. Green is a very accurate and thorough investigator of any subject in which he is interested. He is a nephew of our late associate Dr. John Green, and the brother of our two valued associates, Mr. Samuel S. Green, and Dr. John Green of St. Louis. Mr. Green is very much interested in a matter to which he calls the attention of the Society, namely, the edition of Aristotle's *Musical Problems*, lately published in Belgium, with the Greek text on one page and a French translation opposite, and the musical commentary by the director of the Royal Conservatory in Brussels. Mr. Green calls attention to the fact that this work of Aristotle, so well edited by our associate, is the earliest publication of a scientific character, if not of any character, in regard to music, in existence; and he gives an account of the elucidation and illustration of that text by three scholars working together upon it. Mr. Green endeavored to find some student of music in the Society, who would present this paper with appropriate comments, but the only musician in the Society as far as I have been able to learn, who has any practical as well as theoretical knowledge of it, is the President. I understand the President, and he will correct me if I am wrong, once gave a musical entertainment in Spain to a very large and highly appreciative and highly pleased audience. I desire, therefore, to communicate this paper of Mr. James Green, with the book, to the Society, and ask that it may be referred to the Committee of Publication, and that the paper with such account of the book as may be added be published at their discretion in our Proceedings, and if the President shall be willing to illustrate it in any way from his own experience, that may also be added.

To the Honorable GEORGE F. HOAR,
Vice-President of the American Antiquarian Society.
Sir:—

May I have the pleasure of calling your attention, and that of the members of your Society, to an edition of Aristotle's "Musical Problems" lately published in Belgium,—the Greek text on one page and a French translation opposite, followed by Philological Notes by Dr. Johann C. Vollgraff, your learned Associate Member of the Antiquarian Society, and a Musical Commentary by M. François-Auguste Gevaert, Director of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels. The book contains nearly 450 pages, beautifully printed, in octavo, and was published at Ghent in three parts, in 1899, 1901 and 1903,—(Librairie Générale de Ad. Hoste, Éditeur.) Although your Society confines its official work chiefly to American antiquities, I know that you are interested also in classical antiquity.

The nineteenth section of Aristotle's "Problems," as you know, contains about fifty "Musical Problems," said by Professor Wagener to be "the oldest text known today which is especially devoted to music. The grammarian under the Roman Empire," he adds, "who copied this musical document in the general collection of the Aristotelian problems, apparently had no comprehension of what he was copying." That the musical problems were the work of Aristotle himself has been doubted by some scholars, but our present editors hold stoutly to the belief in Aristotle's authorship. The antiquity of the text, however, seems not to have been called into question. The manuscript appears to have suffered exceptionally in copying and to be full of errors of every sort. The present edition has been under study for a full generation.

It was in the winter of 1870-71 that Auguste Wagener, Professor of Greek at the University of Ghent and a devoted lover of music, called the book to the attention of M. Gevaert, the Inspector of the Academy of Music at Paris, who had left Paris at the time of the Siege and was then living temporarily at Ghent near the place of his birth; and suggested to M. Gevaert that they should study the book together,—"one of them a musician imbued with philology, and the other a philologist devoted to music." In March, 1871, the Commune was proclaimed at Paris and

the Opera remained closed, and M. Gevaert was soon afterward named Director of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels and Musical Conductor to the King of Belgium. He was a born musician, a baker's son who sang his tuneful dreams as he worked at his trade, and who won the Belgian "Prize of Rome" for musical composition, when only eighteen years old. He had written operas before he came to full age, had afterwards composed a dozen pieces for the musical stage, and was now writing a book on "The History and Theory of the Music of Antiquity." The duties of his new office were arduous at first, and all of his time left free from teaching at the Conservatory and leading the Orchestra was devoted to this book; so that it was nearly ten years from the time the plan was formed before M. Gevaert was free to undertake this new study. M. Wagener was also deeply occupied with the administration of the University of Ghent in addition to his professorial duties; but in 1881 the two friends got together again and plotted out their work. The first thing to do was to correct the Greek text which was manifestly corrupt and sometimes out of its proper sequence. This part of the work fell naturally to Professor Wagener. Then followed the translation into French by both the editors separately. Afterwards the special study of the musical side of the problems fell principally to M. Gevaert, who wanted to show the resemblances and the great differences between the old Hellenic music and that of modern Europeans. Hardly had the two professors begun their work when Wagener was elected to the Belgian Legislature and entered with enthusiasm upon his new parliamentary duties, without giving up his work at the University. This brought the projected book suddenly to an apparent end; and M. Gevaert occupied himself with other studies in preparation for another book,—"*La Mélopée Antique dans le Chant de l'Église Latine*,"—which was published in 1894.

Wagener had now left Parliament, but was still Professor and Administrator at the University of Ghent, and his health was a good deal broken. Again the two friends came together and agreed to go on with their common work. But at the close of their first consultation, Professor Wagener said with infinite sadness, "Really, my friend, I find

I am not strong enough to carry out my part of the work alone. I must have help. I have in my mind a young and very capable associate whom you know by name at least, M. Vollgraff, Professor at the University of Brussels. He is a philologist by profession, a strict grammarian, in every way the man that you need in case I disappear before the end of the work. You two together would complete the volume to perfection. Do you want me to bring him the next time I have business at Brussels?"

This new arrangement was made. M. Vollgraff gained the musician's sympathy at once. He was found to be a constant attendant at the concerts of the Conservatory, and a great admirer of Bach, Beethoven, Händel and Glück. The three friends worked together diligently for a few months, but Wagener had come into the work too late and was already passing away. His mind dwelt constantly on this book until January, 1896, when he was no longer allowed to see his friends. How well he had chosen his successor in the Greek Professor's part, the book bears eloquent testimony.

The three collaborators were Dutchmen. Johann Christoph Vollgraff was born at The Hague, in 1848. He studied six years at the University of Leyden, where he won his doctorate of classical philology in 1870. Later, he travelled in Italy, collating manuscripts of Aristophanes at Venice, and others at Ravenna and in the Vatican Library, and attending lectures in the German School of Archaeology and the Museums of Rome. Afterwards he travelled in Greece. After teaching the Greek classics and Roman antiquities in Holland, he was a professor of Classical philology at the University of Brussels for twenty years, from 1883 to 1903. Now he has returned to his native Holland, and is lately become the successor of Dr. van Herwerden, his old instructor and friend, the eminent Greek scholar and lexicographer, in the chair of Greek letters and antiquities in the University of Utrecht. He is an Associate Member of the Royal Academy of Belgium, Corresponding Member of the Imperial German Archaeological Institute, Member of the Philological Society of Constantinople, and of several Dutch societies. Besides coöperating with van Herwerden on an edition of the *Helena* of Euripides, he has published various pamphlets

in the line of his studies, a list of some of which is here appended; but his time for the past twenty years has been spent chiefly in the lecture-room at the University.

JAMES GREEN.

Worcester, Massachusetts, April 29, 1903.

PROFESSOR VOLLGRAFF'S PUBLICATIONS.

Studia Palæographica.—Disputatio litteraria inauguralis. Lugduni Batavorum, 1870.

Greek Writers of Roman History. Some Reflections upon the Authorities of Plutarch and Appianus. Leyden, 1880.

L'essence et la méthode de la philologie classique. Discours prononcé à l'ouverture de son cours à l'Université de Bruxelles, le 14 Novembre, 1883.

M. Tullii Ciceronis pro M. Cælio Oratio ad indices. Ad optimos codices denuo collatos recognovit I. C. Vollgraff. Accessit appendix critica. Lugduni Batavorum apud E. I. Brill, 1887.

Nekrolog von Dr. Hermann Müller-Strübing in Bursian's *Jahresberichten*, 1897.

Numerous critical studies and essays on Greek writers in the *Mnemosyne*, Review of classical philology. (Leyden.)

Papers read in the Royal Belgian Academy.

Les Problèmes Musicaux d'Aristote.

A paper containing an explanation and introduction to the diary of Isaiah Thomas was read by BENJAMIN THOMAS HILL, A.B.

ANDREW MCFARLAND DAVIS, A.M., of Cambridge presented a communication concerning "The Fund at Boston in New England," 1681.

A paper was presented by Rev. WILLIAM DELOSS LOVE, Ph.D., of Hartford, upon "The Navigation of the Connecticut River."

SAMUEL S. GREEN, A.M., read a paper entitled, "Did Sir Thomas Browne write 'Fragment on Mummies?'"

In connection with this paper Senator HOAR remarked:

I would like, if there be time, to say a word or two for this paper. In spite of the question about its genuineness which Mr. Stephen, a very high authority, seems to settle very emphatically, I do not quite feel like giving up this

wonderful passage. I have for many years, probably for fifty years, deemed it one of the three or four finest examples of English prose, outside of the King James translation of the Bible, and with all the halo and hallucination gone, I still think that this obscure forger, if he forged this passage, is one of the greatest, and perhaps the greatest, single English writer of original English prose. Mr. Emerson thought so. That is, he thought that of the "Fragment." I remember in my boyhood hearing the late Charles C. Hazewell, who was one of our most learned and enthusiastic scholars, repeat this passage by heart. I could repeat it myself now. Mr. Green read only a small part of it. It occupies four pages in Wilkin's first edition. Now let me read what Mr. Green just read, with one or two sentences more. I will append the whole "Fragment" to the report of what I say.

Now, the evidence that the forger wrote that is, that when somebody said, "You wrote that yourself," he answered, "It is the first time anybody ever taxed me with it." Well, I think nobody has ever taxed me with writing Hamlet, but if I can get the credit of it I will make that answer.

Sir Thomas Browne is one of the great antiquaries of the world. There never was a man to whom antiquity was more, not only an object of curiosity, but an object of profound reverence, and the enthusiasm of whose soul was stirred by antiquity in history, literature, philosophy and science. As I said, I think this passage is one of the three or four greatest passages in all English literature, not counting what is found between the leaves of the Old and New Testaments, and I am very slow and reluctant to give it up.

Mr. President, if there be a little more time, I would like to read to the Society an account of the meeting in Gloucestershire, England, at the unveiling of a portrait of our late friend and associate, Mr. John Bellows.

I suppose nearly every member of the Society had the good fortune to meet Mr. Bellows when he was here, and all of us probably have seen the two interesting contributions which he made to our Proceedings. Mr. Bellows, soon after he went home, yielded to the exactions upon his slender physical strength of a life of incessant labor, largely spent in humane work. He was the representative of his denomination in all of their admirable work for all races that were desolate and oppressed in Europe. He took to his bed, and lay in his chamber for many weeks. His dwelling is on the Cotswold Hills, about four miles out of Gloucester, and not far from the famous scene of Falstaff and Justice Shallow in Shakespeare. Looking over the valley from his house he could see the towers of Gloucester and Worcester and Hereford and Tewksbury Abbey, and the scene of the great military operations which ended in the taking of Gloucester and the taking of Worcester in Charles II.'s time.

There was a meeting in Gloucester shortly after Mr. Bellows's death to unveil a painting which had been subscribed for by his friends to be placed in the Town Hall in Gloucester, and many eminent persons of the region around were present. The chair was taken by the Earl of Ducey, Lord Lieutenant of the County, who is a very eminent authority as a botanist, especially in the matter of trees and shrubs.

I move that this account of Mr. Bellows be referred to the Committee of Publication with authority to print it.

FRAGMENT ON MUMMIES.

[FROM A COPY IN THE HANDWRITING OF J. CROSSLEY, ESQ.¹]
Wilkin's Edition, Sir Thomas Browne's Works. London. William Pickering, 1835.

Wise Egypt, prodigal of her embalmments, wrapped up her princes and great commanders in aromatical folds, and,

¹ *J. Crossley, Esq.*] I have given this fragment on the authority of Mr. Crossley; but have not been able to find the vol. in the British Museum which contained it, nor could he inform me; having transcribed it himself in the Museum, but omitted to note the volume in which he met with it.

studiously extracting from corruptible bodies their corruption; ambitiously looked forward to immortality; from which vain-glory we have become acquainted with many remnants of the old world, who could discourse unto us of the great things of yore, and tell us strange tales of the sons of Misraim, and ancient braveries of Egypt. Wonderful indeed are the preserves of time, which openeth unto us mummies from crypts and pyramids, and mammoth bones from caverns and excavations; whereof man hath found the best preservation, appearing unto us in some sort fleshly, while beasts must be fain of an osseous continuance.

In what original this practice of the Egyptians had root, divers authors dispute; while some place the origin hereof in the desire to prevent the separation of the soul, by keeping the body untabified, and alluring the spiritual part to remain by sweet and precious odours. But all this was but fond inconsideration. The soul, having broken its * * * *, is not stayed by bands and cerecloths, nor to be recalled by Sabæan odours, but fleeth to the place of invisibles, the *ubi* of spirits, and needeth a surer than Hermes's seal to imprison it to its medicated trunk, which yet subsists anomalously in its indestructible case, and, like a widow looking for her husband, anxiously awaits its return.

* * * * *

Of Joseph it is said, that they embalmed him; and he was put in a coffin in Egypt. When the Scripture saith that the Egyptians mourned for him three score and ten days, some doubt may be made, from the practices as delivered by Herodotus, who saith that the time allowed for preserving the body and mourning was seventy days. Amongst the Rabbins, there is an old tradition, that Joseph's body was dried by smoke, and preserved in the river Nile, till the final departure of the children of Israel from Egypt, according to the Targum of Uzziel. Sckichardus delivereth it as the opinion of R. Abraham Seba, that this was done in contempt of Egypt, as unworthy of the depository of that great patriarch; also as a type of the infants who were drowned in that river, whereto Sckichardus subjoineth that it was physically proper to prevent corruption. The Rabbins likewise idly dream

that these bones were carried away by Moses about a century after, when they departed into Egypt, though how a coffin could be preserved in that large river, so as to be found again, they are not agreed; and some fly after their manner to Schem-hamphorasch, which most will regard as vain babblings.

That mummy is medicinal, the Arabian Doctor Haly delivereth and divers confirm; but of the particular uses thereof, there is much discrepancy of opinion. While Hofmannus prescribes the same to epileptics, Johan de Muralto commends the use thereof to gouty persons; Bacon likewise extols it as a stiptic: and Junkenius considers it of efficacy to resolve coagulated blood. Meanwhile we hardly applaud Francis the First, of France, who always carried mummies with him as a panacea against all disorders; and were the efficacy thereof more clearly made out, scarce conceive the use thereof allowable in physic, exceeding the barbarities of Cambyses, and turning old heroes unto unworthy potions. Shall Egypt lend out her ancients unto chirurgeons and apothecaries, and Cheops and Psammitticus be weighed unto us for drugs? Shall we eat of Chamnes and Amosis in electuaries and pills, and be cured by cannibal mixtures? Surely such diet is dismal vampirism; and exceeds in horror the black banquet of Domitian, not to be paralleled except in those Arabian feasts, wherein Ghoules feed horribly.

But the common opinion of the virtues of mummy bred great consumption thereof, and princes and great men contended for this strange panacea, wherein Jews dealt largely, manufacturing mummies from dead carcasses, and giving them the names of kings, while specifics were compounded from crosses and gibbet leavings. There wanted not a set of Arabians who counterfeited mummies so accurately, that it needed great skill to distinguish the false from the true. Queasy stomachs would hardly fancy the doubtful potion, wherein one might so easily swallow a cloud for his Juno, and defraud the fowls of the air while in conceit enjoying the conserves of Canopus.

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Radzivil had a strange story of some mummies which he had stowed in seven chests, and was carrying on ship board from Egypt, when a priest on the mission, while at

his prayers, was tormented by two ethnic spectres or devils, a man and a woman, both black and horrible; and at the same time a great storm at sea, which threatened shipwreck, till at last they were enforced to pacify the enraged sea, and put those demons to flight by throwing their mummy freight overboard, and so with difficulty escaped. What credit the relation of the worthy person deserves, we leave unto others. Surely if true, these demons were Satan's emissaries, appearing in forms answerable unto Horus and Momptra, the old deities of Egypt, to delude unhappy men. For those dark caves and mummy repositories are Satan's abodes, wherein he speculates and rejoices on human vain-glory, and keeps those kings and conquerors, whom alive he bewitched, whole for that great day, when he will claim his own, and marshal the kings of Nilus and Thebes in sad procession unto the pit.

Death, that fatal necessity which so many would overlook, or blinkingly survey, the old Egyptians held continually before their eyes. Their embalmed ancestors they carried about at their banquets, as holding them still a part of their families, and not thrusting them from their places at feasts. They wanted not likewise a sad preacher at their tables to admonish them daily of death, surely an unnecessary discourse while they banqueted in sepulchres. Whether this were not making too much of death, as tending to assuefaction, some reason there is to doubt, but certain it is that such practices would hardly be embraced by our modern gourmands who like not to look on faces of *morta*, or to be elbowed by mummies.

Yet in those huge structures and pyramidal immensities, of the builders whereof so little is known, they seemed not so much to raise sepulchres or temples to death, as to condemn and disdain it, astonishing heaven with their audacities, and looking forward with delight to their interment in those eternal piles. Of their living habitations they made little account, conceiving of them but as *hospitia*, or inns, while they adorned the sepulchres of the dead, and planting thereon lasting bases, defied the crumbling touches of time and the misty vapoiousness of oblivion. Yet all were but Babel vanities. Time sadly overcometh all things, and is now dominant, and sitteth

upon a sphinx, and looketh unto Memphis and old Thebes, while his sister Oblivion reclineth semisomnous on a pyramid, gloriously triumphing, making puzzles of Titanian erections, and turning old glories into dreams. History sinketh beneath her cloud. The traveller as he paceth amazedly through those deserts asketh of her, who builded them? and she mumbleth something, but what it is he heareth not.

Egypt itself is now become the land of obliviousness and doteth. Her ancient civility is gone, and her glory hath vanished as a phantasma. Her youthful days are over, and her face has become wrinkled and tetrick. She poreth not upon the heavens, astronomy is dead unto her, and knowledge maketh other cycles. Canopus is afar off, Memnon resoundeth not to the sun, and Nilus heareth strange voices. Her monuments are but hieroglyphically sempiternal. Osiris and Anubis, her averruncous deities, have departed, while Orus yet remains dimly shadowing the principle of vicissitude and the effluxion of things. but receiveth little oblation.

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Mr. SAMUEL S. GREEN added:—

I want to second Mr. Hoar's motion. In this connection I cannot help describing to you a visit that I made in the family of John Bellows last summer. His widow, youngest son and one of his daughters met the little party to which I belonged at the station in Gloucester, and drove us to the beautifully situated home of which Mr. Hoar has spoken. There is an admirable description of the very interesting views which are obtainable from all sides of the house in the paper which Mr. Bellows contributed to our Proceedings, giving the particulars of a trip which he and Mr. Hoar made together in Dean Forest. That paper illustrates, too, that acute sensitiveness to the beauties of nature, equally with the example which Mr. Hoar has given. I was charmed by the atmosphere of the family of Mrs. Bellows, which consisted of the widow and several grown up children. It is a family which is deeply interested in the life of the Society of Friends.

The inmates are all devoted members of that small but interesting body, and the air which pervaded the house was one of unobtrusive piety, mingled with the most cordial hospitality. The pleasant way in which Mrs. Bellows spoke of the enjoyment of her visit and that of John Bellows to this country makes me feel that she would be unwilling that I should fail to take this opportunity to bring a message of greeting to all of you. It was evident that association with members of this Society gave both of them much pleasure. The family took me the first evening that I reached Upton Knoll, its residence, to a Roman camp not far from the house. An incident of interest was that when the family horse was about to go up one of the hills which prevailed, the carriage was always emptied, and we all walked up the hill. That incident was repeated every time we used the horse during the two or three days that our party was in Mrs. Bellows's house. Mr. Hoar has spoken of the earnestness of the convictions of John Bellows. While Mrs. Bellows was showing us the interior of the Cathedral at Gloucester she gave me what will seem to some persons an extreme example of this trait. She said that her husband had never been inside of the Cathedral. It would have been necessary had he gone in to have taken off his hat, and as a consistent member of the Society of Friends he felt that he could not do that. I was taken to the great printing establishment which John Bellows had in Gloucester, and which the family still conducts. I was taken into the cellar and shown a piece of Roman wall which was found in excavating the cellar and was allowed to remain. Perhaps it was that discovery which developed the great interest in Roman antiquities which John Bellows had, and which made him a leading authority in England in regard to Roman antiquities in that country. I was pleased to see that one of his sons was seated in the printing office with a young Frenchman by his side, and

that they were going over the little French pocket dictionary which is so famous, word by word, to make such changes and additions as were necessary, in bringing out a new edition. They told me it could no longer be a pocket dictionary, but that they were trying to make it a perfect dictionary. Mr. Bellows, as I have learned since our meeting, had recently spent several months in Paris in improving the text of the new edition. Another son of our late associate was seated in another room in this printing house with a young German by his side, and they were working on what they meant to be a compendious little German dictionary. The whole visit in the Bellows family was delightful, and the courtesy of its inmates will never be forgotten.

In regard to my short paper, I wish to say that it is a great pleasure to me to have been the means of bringing out the interesting remarks of our beloved associate, Senator Hoar. I have only to remind you that the Fragment from which Mr. Hoar has read so large a portion is, as stated in the paper, to be found only in the earlier edition of Wilkin's work. That was issued in 1835. I have the later edition in my library. I have been trying for some time to get the earlier edition in England, but only succeeded after reading my paper. I should advise people who have the earlier edition to treasure it.

It was moved and seconded that the communications of Senator HOAR and Mr. GREEN in regard to John Bellows be referred to the Committee of Publication, and that a vote of thanks be given Mr. JAMES GREEN for his communication in regard to this valuable gift from the author.

Mr. CHARLES P. BOWDITCH presented his report as a

delegate to the Société Internationale des Américanistes, as follows :—

28 State Street, Boston, Mass.,
October 28th, 1902.

HON. STEPHEN SALISBURY,
President American Antiquarian Society,
Worcester, Mass.

Sir :

I beg to report that I attended the Congress of the Société Internationale des Américanistes, as a delegate of the American Antiquarian Society from Tuesday, October 21st, to Saturday, October 25th.

The meeting was largely attended by members and delegates from many foreign countries and from the United States. Questions of interest in archæology, ethnology, linguistics, folk-lore and kindred subjects, were presented in valuable papers and were discussed by those present. Most of the papers were read in the English language, although French is the official language of the Society. The interest and enthusiasm manifested by the members and delegates clearly showed the advantage of such meetings as this.

Very respectfully yours,

CHARLES P. BOWDITCH,
Delegate of the American Antiquarian Society
to the
Congress of the Société Internationale des
Américanistes.

It was voted that the various papers and communications be referred to the Committee of Publication, to be published in the Proceedings of the meeting.

After the meeting was dissolved, many of the members lunched together at Hotel Somerset.

CHARLES A. CHASE,
Recording Secretary.

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