EXCERPT MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING.

Held at 116 Victoria Street, July 18th, 1883.

W. H. HUDLESTON, Esq., M.A., President in the Chair.

MR. J. J. HABBIS TEALL, M.A., F.G.S., was elected a Member

MR. T. VAUGHAN HUGHES, A.R.S.M., was elected an Associate.

EXCERPT MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING.

Held at the Museum, Jermyn Street, October 23rd, 1883.

W. H. HUDLESTON, ESQ., M.A., President, in the Chair.

The following gentlemen were elected Members-

ALEXANDER Ross, Esq.

W. R. TAIT, ESq.

T. H. HAMPTON, Esq.

PROFESSOR LUDWIG, of Vienna, was elected a Corresponding Member.

A letter was read from Prof. W. J. Lewis, proposing terms of amalgamation with the Crystallological Society, which were accepted.

It was resolved, that the meeting in December be made Special, for the purpose of election *en bloc* of the Members of the Crystallological Society.

EXCERPT MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING.

Held at the Museum, Jermyn Street, December 11th, 1883.

The REV. PROF. BONNEY, D.Sc., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The names of certain gentlemen, in arrear with their subscriptions, were ordered to be removed from the list.

EXCERPT MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING.

Held at the Museum, Jermyn Street, February 12th, 1884.

The Rev. PROF. BONNEY, D.Sc., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The audited statement of accounts for the year 1883 was submitted and ordered to be issued. (see p. xviii.)

The following Associates were elected Members-

MB. W. SEMMONS.

MB. T. VAUGHAN HUGHES.

The following corresponding Members of the Crystallological Society were elected corresponding Members-

Mr. E. BERTEAND, Paris. His Sebene Highness the Grand Duke of Leuchtenburg. Prof. Victor Von Lang, Vienna.

The Editing Committee for the current year was constituted as follows-

THE PRESIDENT. ME. T. DAVIES. ME. L. FLETCHER. ME. W. HUDLESTON. ME. R. H. SCOTT.

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THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY.

Held at the Museum, Jermyn Street, Oct. 23rd, 1883, at 8 p.m.

W. H. HUDLESTON, M.A., J.P., F.G.S., President, in the Chair.

The Voting Papers, 44 in number, for the Officers and Council, were submitted, and the following were found to be duly elected—

President. REV. PROF. T. G. BONNEY, D.Sc., F.R.S.

Vice-Presidents. REV. S. HAUGHTON, M.D., F.R.S. W. H. HUDLESTON, M.A., F.G.S.

Council in place of G. S. BOULGER, F.G.S. Messre. Danby, C. O. TRECHMANN, Ph.D., F.G.S. Church, Merry and J. STUART THOMSON, Esq. Walker. Rev. PROF. T. WILTSHIRE, M.A., F.G.S.

Treasurer. R. P. GREG, F.G.S.

General Secretary. ROBERT H. SCOTT, M.A., F.R.S.

Foreign Secretary. C. LE NEVE FOSTER, D.Sc., F.G.S.

The Secretary read the following Report of the Council—

REPORT.

The Seventh Annual Balance-sheet of the Society, being that for the year 1882, which appeared in Part XXIV., exhibited the most satisfactory financial statement which has yet been presented to the members.

There appeared, it is true, an adverse balance of £6 2s. 9d. at the foot of the account; but, on the other hand, the bills outstanding were small in amount, and the final excess of Assets over Liabilities was £174 19s. 1d., being an increase of £63 4s. 9d. on the corresponding figures from the previous balance-sheet. The over-draft had been caused by the necessity of paying off, before the close of the year, Messrs. Lake, the former printers.

The Society having found that inconvenience resulted from the employment of printers resident in Cornwall, resolved to transfer their custom to a London firm,—Messrs. Williams & Strahan (7 Lawrence Lane, E.C.), and the change was effected in January.

The number of Members shows a slight increase on the total from the previous year, as the elections have been 12, viz. : 11 Members and 1 Associate. The losses by death have been three, Mr. Grieve, of Burnt Island; Monsieur Micault; and, among the Corresponding Members, Prof. von Kobell, whose place among mineralogists it will be hard to fill.

There have been four resignations, and two names have been removed for non-payment of subscriptions for three years.

The Council have considered that the time has come to make a revision of the terms of election of Associates ; and they submit to the Meeting some suggested modifications of the rules bearing on that subject.

Only two parts of the Journal have appeared during the year, a third, however, will very speedily be distributed to the Members.

It will be seen that Professor Heddle is again by far the most active of the contributors; and though the Council have to thank most warmly the President, Mr. Collins, and others who have sent in Papers, they cannot but point out that the proportion of Members who contribute original matter is extremely limited, and that unless materially increased activity is displayed, the Journal cannot continue to command the sale which it has attained during the last two years.

Three meetings have taken place during the year, in London; and by kind permission of the Director-General of the Geological Survey, they have been held in the theatre of the Museum of Economic Geology.

On the motion of Mr. Henson, seconded by Mr. Gregory, the Report was adopted. The following alterations of the Rules, of which notice had been duly given in accordance with Rule 29, were then successively submitted, and unanimously adopted.

Rule 4, Add, "And the Council may revise the qualifications of Associates elected after the 1st November, 1888, at the expiration of three years from their election."

Rule 7, Add, " Or from Associates of three years' standing."

Rule 12, Add, "And the Council shall have power to coopt Members to fill any vacancies, caused either by death or by resignation, occurring in the interval between two Anniversary Meetings."

The President then delivered the following Address :---

GENTLEMEN, this concludes the ordinary business brought before the present Annual Meeting, but there are certain topics of interest to which I may allude previous to the commencement of the General Meeting for scientific work, which will be held forthwith under the presidency of my successor, Professor Bonney.

In the first place, I am happy to say that it is not the custom for the Presidents of this Society to deliver an address, and therefore I shall not have to trouble you with any lengthened remarks, but merely to make a few passing allusions to the present condition and prospects of the Mineralogical Society.

In February of the present year we completed our first Septennial stage, and the last two years of this stage may be regarded as what the old geologists would have called the "transition" period, although in these days we recognise a certain amount of transition *in all periods*. Certainly these last two years have witnessed important changes with us, which, although they are not yet fully recognised, nevertheless materially affect the working of our constitution as a society.

Thus its peripatetic and yet local character has been undergoing modification; and it is evident that the tendency of everything towards London has been felt to an extent which the first founders could hardly have contemplated. It very often happens that, on the constitution of a new body, the enthusiasm of the recently enrolled members carries it through many difficulties; and so, I believe, that some of the very earliest meetings of this Society at various provincial centres were successful in point of attendance. But the thing could not last. If proof was required of how matters are changed since those days, we could not have a stronger one than the fact of there having been no country meeting in May last, although a day in that month was fixed and advertised beforehand for a meeting to be held at some place in Scotland. Thus we are prepared by the force of circumstances to have the Mineralogical Society located in London, whither it has naturally gravitated. Yet I trust that the "country" character of the Society will not be suffered to die out, but that at least once in each year a successful meeting may be convened out of London.

There is another point of importance to which I should allude. viz. our financial position. Two years ago, owing to the large amount of matter published, we were heavily in debt to our printers, Messrs. Lake and Co.; the only other serious item of expenditure being the remuneration to the ex-secretary, Mr. Collins. Altogether at that juncture the financial outlook was not very favourable. Mr. Scott has grappled with the difficulty most successfully. In doing the work of General Secretary without fee, beyond a trifling sum to one of his clerks, a pressure on the resources of the Society has been removed, whilst at the same time the expenses of publication have been kept within bounds. The result is that the large debt to Messrs. Lake and Co. has been entirely cleared off, and we can now look our compounders in the face with a very respectable item in the shape of assets, and no liability of any serious import.

This position, of course, has not been attained without some corresponding disadvantages; thus the less frequent appearance of the journal during the last two years has no doubt caused dissatisfaction in some quarters, and may possibly have led to a few resignations, yet in spite of all this we keep up our numbers, and indeed there is a slight increase during the past year. Moreover this subject of publication reminds me, I should say, of another point of importance, viz. the paucity of matter brought before the Society of late. This is very properly mentioned in the Report. It is only fair to admit that Dr. Heddle has been mainly instrumental in keeping us before the public in respect of publication, and if severer critics maintain that portions of his papers are not mineralogical, scarcely indeed scientific, it should be borne in mind that but for these papers the Journal would have been very attenuated indeed. There can be no doubt that Dr. Heddle's papers, and more especially his maps, have helped us in more ways than one.

And this brings me to a very crucial question, viz. whether the Mineralogical Society is not covering ground already occupied by the Geological Society. This is the view taken by some, who have held aloof alike from us and from the Crystallological Society. It is perfectly certain that the founders of the Geological Society intended to further, amongst other things, the study of mineralogy, as is amply shown by the papers of Macculloch, William Phillips, and other authors in the earlier "Transactions." But there was a time in the history of the Geological Society when palæontology and the allied studies had almost ousted anything approaching mineralogy. It is true that, since Dr. Sorby occupied the chair and Professor Bonney became the senior secretary, a marked change has taken place, but the feelings engendered amongst mineralogists by the former preponderance of the biological element are not altogether forgotten.

And now I must allude to a subject which, I feel sure, has been uppermost in the minds of us all, and that is, the proposed union with the Crystallological Society. This, as you are aware, is not a numerous body, but includes men of eminence, devoted to the more scientific aspect of mineralogy. Two of them already belong to us, and there may be about ten or a dozen more. Without doubt an amalgamation would be highly beneficial to both parties, the resultant being perhaps a society more purely mineralogical than that which now exists. We should bring a comparatively large body with funds and a well-established journal; they would bring a small body-mostly men who are likely to be workers and of high repute. Negotiations were commenced in earnest during the past summer, and conducted on our behalf through Mr. Scott, on behalf of the "Crystallological" through Mr. Lewis. The basis of a treaty has been outlined by these two gentlemen, and this has in substance been confirmed, after due consideration, by the Council to-day. I must request the secretary to be kind xxiv.

enough to read you that portion of the Minutes of the Council just held which bears upon this question.

[Minutes read.]

There is no provision in our Rules for any such event as fusion with another society, and therefore a special meeting must be convened for that purpose. It is probable that the December meeting of our Society will be made special for the purpose of entertaining the question of amalgamation in accordance with the minutes which have just been read to you. Due notice will be given to all members.

It only remains for me to offer the thanks of this meeting to the Director General of the Geological Survey for his kind permission to meet in this place; and herewith I would associate the name of Mr. Rudler, who has ever been one of our best friends.

Lastly, I beg leave to propose, in due form, a vote of thanks to our Secretary, Mr. Scott, whose services to us have been made so obvious by what I have already stated. He has managed our finances, looked after the editing of the Journal, and conducted our negotiations, all with his usual energy and skill, nay, more, whenever we required a home there was one always ready at the Meteorological Office. All this trouble had been undertaken without any pecuniary compensation whatever, and it was impossible to estimate too highly the work which Mr. Scott had performed for the Society.

Mr. Hawkins Johnson, in seconding this vote of thanks, fully endorsed the President's remarks as to the value of Mr. Scott's services to the Mineralogical Society.

Put and carried by acclamation.

The President then vacated the chair, which was taken by his successor the Rev. T. G. Bonney.

On the motion of Mr. Danby, seconded by Mr. T. Davies, the best thanks of the Society were tendered to the outgoing President for his conduct in the chair during the past two years.

The following Papers were read :----

" Note on Crystals of Calamine from Wanlockhead, Dumfriesshire." By J. Stuart Thomson.

"On the Occurrence of "Evansite" in Cheshire." By A. S. Woodward (communicated by T. Davies, Junr.).

Mr. Henson exhibited a magnificent specimen of *Stibnite* from Japan, containing about 120 crystals; the total weight being 150 lbs.

GENERAL MEETING.

Held at the Museum, Jermyn Street, Dec. 11th, at 8 p.m.

The Rev. Prof. BONNEY, D.Sc., F.R.S., President, in the Chair. The following papers were read—

"On some Specimens of Lava from Old Providence Island." By the PRESIDENT.

"On the Evidence of the Occurrence of Nickel-Iron with Widmanstätten's Figures in the Basalt of North Greenland." By Prof. K. J. V. Steenstrup (Cor. Memb.).

"On the Chemical Constitution of the Telluric Iron from Greenland." By Dr. J. Lorenzen (communicated by the Secretary).

"Note on a New Mode of Ocurrence of Garnet." By H. Louis.

At the hour of 9 p.m., the Meeting was made special, pursuant to notice, for the purpose of suspending the first ten words of Rule 7, "Ordinary Members shall pay an entrance-fee of £1 1s.," in order to admit of the election *en bloc* of the Members of the Crystallological Society.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

Held at the Museum, Jermyn Street, at 9 p.m.

REV. PROF. BONNEY, D.Sc., President, in the Chair.

It was proposed by Mr. HUDLESTON, seconded by Mr. HAWKINS JOHNSON, and carried unanimously-

"That the first ten words of Rule 7, 'Ordinary Members shall pay an Entrance Fee of £1 1s.,' be suspended."

It was then proposed by Mr. R. H. Scott, seconded by Mr. HAWKINS JOHNSON-

"That the Members of the Crystallological Society, be elected Members of the Mineralogical Society."

The motion being put from the chair, was carried unanimously.

GENERAL MEETING.

Held at the Museum, Jermyn Street, February 12th, 1884.

REV. PROF. BONNEY, D.Sc., President, in the Chair.

The following papers were read-

"On a case of Replacement of the Quartz Constituent of a Granite by Fluor Spar," By the President.

"On an Arsenical Copper Ore, 'Garby-ite,' from Montana, U.S.A." By Mr. W. Semmons (Associate).

"On an altered Siderite from Alston Moor." By Dr. C. O. Trechmann.

"Notes on a Picrite (Palæopicrite) and other Rocks from Gipps Land, and a Serpentine from Tasmania." By the President.

Prof. Judd, F.R.S., on invitation of the President submitted some slides of dust from the Volcano of Krakatos, which were exhibited under the microscope, and he explained the principal features noticeable in these deposits.

The President exhibited some slides of dust from Cotopaxi, which had fallen on Chimborazo at the time that Mr. E. Whymper was ascending the latter mountain.

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