Franklin Institute Quarterly Meeting.

The forty-ninth quarterly meeting of the Institute was held at their Hall, on Thursday, April 21st, 1836.

THOMAS FLETCHER, Vice President, presiding;

ISAAC P. MORRIS, Recording Secretary, P. T.

The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read and approved.

Donations of books, maps, and charts, were presented by Messrs. Carey, Lea & Blanchard; Adam Ramage; John C. Trautwine; Charles Roberts; Professor A. D. Bache, and Major Hartman Bache, of Philadelphia.

Donations of minerals, from Mr. John C. Trautwine, and Prof. W. R. Johnson, of Philadelphia, and from Mr. H. Neilson, of Richmond, Va.

John Vaughan, Esq., of Philadelphia, presented a specimen of sugar, made in France, from the beet.

The New York Gold and Silversmiths' Temperance Society presented a copy of their constitution and by-laws, and their certificate of membership.

Constant M. Eakin, Esq., of Philadelphia, presented specimens of zinc, made from the Pennsylvania ore, and of brass, made with the zinc, under the direction of F. R. Hassler, Esq., intended for the fabrication of weights and measures for the United States.

The Actuary laid on the tables, the periodicals received in exchange for the Journal of the Institute, during the past quarter.

The Chairman of the Board of Managers presented the forty-ninth quarterly report of the Board, which was read and accepted, and, on motion, referred for publication.

The Treasurer presented his quarterly report of the finances of the Institute, which was read and accepted.

Extract from the minutes.

THOMAS FLETCHER, *Vice President.*

ISAAC P. MORRIS, *Rec. Sec. P. T.*

Report of the Board of Managers.

The Board of Managers respectfully submit to the Institute, their forty-ninth quarterly report.

During the past quarter, the courses of instruction have closed, having been attended with their usual success. The want of accommodations, severely felt last year, has, however, tended to diminish the numbers of the class during the present year; a fact which should rouse the members to additional exertions in completing the arrangements for the new hall.

The Professor of Chemistry has evinced his ordinary zeal, and, amid the pressure of manifold professional engagements, has found time to devote to the instruction of his class. His lectures have given great satisfaction.

The Professor of Natural Philosophy has diversified the subjects of his course, even more than usual, during the past year, and his lectures have been well attended.

The Board return thanks to Mr. James C. Booth, for his volunteer lectures on the manufacture of porcelain. It is much to be regretted, that, among so many members of the Institute who are able to contribute to the information of their fellow members, so few are found to volunteer in the cause.

It will be the study of the Committee on Instruction, to endeavour to give more extent to the system of lectures, by supplying the nights vacant from the want of volunteer lectures.

The Drawing Schools have greatly flourished during the past year. The number of pupils in the two departments has been seventy-eight, many of whom have taken tickets for two quarters.

The apathy which has prevailed in regard to the English School, is calculated to discourage both the excellent instructor, who has presided over it, and the managers who have so often urged its claims upon the members.

As of great importance to the future welfare of the Institute, the Board proceed to notice the plan for extending the accommodations. The property of the masonic corporation, in Chesnut street, has been regularly transferred to the Franklin Institute. It has not been deemed prudent, under existing difficulties among mechanics, to go into the erection of a new hall upon this site at the present time. In the meanwhile, the committee who have charge of the property, will use it to the best advantage for the institution. The members should come forward liberally, to the full extent of each one's means and influence, to patronize the attempt to extend the usefulness of the Franklin Institute, by furnishing enlarged accommodations for its lectures, its schools, its library and reading rooms, its cabinets of models and minerals, and its exhibitions.

The contribution to practical science made during the past quarter, in the report of the Committee on the Explosions of Steam-Boilers, has been one of great importance, and may well excite the pride of the members. Public opinion will, it is hoped, be borne along with the final report of this committee, in their recommendations for preventing, or lessening, these disastrous accidents. For that report, the managers look with great interest.

The Committee on Science and the Arts have continued their useful labours in the examination of numerous inventions and improvements submitted to them. Their impartial decisions are, it is believed, highly esteemed by practical men. At their last annual meeting, the committee re-elected Professor A. D. Bache, Chairman for the ensuing year.

The new plan adopted for the Journal of the Institute, has met with considerable success. The same amount of matter on mechanics as formerly, is afforded, and, in addition, original and selected articles on Physical Science are admitted. The Managers again call the attention of the members to the fact, that their patronage of the Journal is by no means what it ought to be. Let no working man plead that he has not time to be a reading man. In the very important part which mechanics have to sustain, they must keep pace with the progress of mechanical science, or they will fall behind in estimation as a class. The *Mechanics' Register*, attached to the Journal, is not heavy reading, and, when more solid articles tire, cannot fail to amuse, as well as to instruct. The Editor, and the Committee on Publications, deserve and receive the thanks of the Board, for their united labours in behalf of the Journal.

The library has increased during the past quarter, by forty-five volumes on useful subjects. The cabinets of models and minerals have received a few additions. When there shall be more room to display their stores, it is hoped and believed that additions to them will be more frequent.

The number of members is increasing steadily. Since the last report, seventeen members have been admitted, and three have resigned. Mr. William Mason, and Mr. Thomas Ryan, have become life members of the Institute.

Herewith is presented the quarterly report of the Treasurer.

M. W. BALDWIN, *Chairman.*

WILLIAM HAMILTON, *Actuary.*