drilled holes ; and the author reiterates his conviction that the force used in punching plates is a valuable practical test of their quality, and tends to prevent the use of inferior iron.

Franklin Institute.

Proceedings of the Stated Meeting, May 21, 1873.

The meeting was called to order at the usual hour, with the President, Mr. Coleman Sellers, in the Chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Actuary submitted the minutes of the Board of Managers, and reported that at the stated meeting of the Board, held May 14th, donations to the Library had been announced from the following :

Machinery of the Arabia and La Plata. From B. H. Bartol, Esq., Philadelphia.

Bulletin of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, Boston, Mass. From the Association.

Journal of the Society of Arts of London, for March, 1873. From the Society.

Annales des Ponts et Chaussées, Paris, France. From the Administration.

Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, for March, 1873. From the Society.

Mittheilungen der K. K. Geographischen Gesellschaft in Wien, 1871. From the Society.

Statistical Report of the National Association of Iron Manufacturers for 1872. From the Association.

Proceedings and Statistics of the American Pig Iron Manufacturers' Association for 1872. From the Secretary of the Association.

The Report of the Superintendent of the U. S. Coast Survey, showing the progress of the Survey during the year 1869. From Prof. Benj. Pierce, Superintendent U. S. Coast Survey.

The Hub and Coach Makers' Magazine. From John H. Warder, Esq.

Annales de Chimie et de Physique for January and February, 1873. From the Editors.

Comptes Rendus Hebdomadaires des Seances de l'Academie des

Sciences, from December 30th to March 24th, 1873. From the Academy.

Bulletin de la Société d'Encouragement pour l'Industrie Nationale, January to April, 1873. From the Society.

Revue Générale de l'Architecture et des Travaux Publics, etc. From the Editor.

General Register der Bände, xi—xx, des Jahrbuches und der Jahrgänge, 1860—to 1870, der Verhandlungen der K. K. Geologischen Reichsaustalt. From the Direction.

Jahrbuch der K. K. Geologischen Reichsanstalt Jahrgang, 1872, from October to December. From the Direction.

Verhandlungen derselben, 1872. From the same.

Third Annual Report of the President and Directors of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad. From Chas. Paine, Esq.

Annales des Pontes et Chaussées, for January, 1873. From the Administration.

Annales des Mines, etc. Vol. ii, 1872. From the Administration.

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, for January and February, 1873. From the Academy.

Transactions of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Proceedings of the meeting held January 17th, 1873. From the Society.

The Actuary likewise deposited the minutes of the several standing committees.

The special committees on the Horse-Power of Steam Boilers and upon Conflagrations, reported progress, and were continued by direction of the President.

The President next announced a paper upon an improved form of furnace for the desulphurization of gold ores, by Dr. Ira M. Phelps. The paper will be found published in the Journal of the Franklin Institute for August, 1873. The speaker described the progress made in the utilization of the sulphurous ores of the West, and explained from photographs cast upon the screen, the construction of a new furnace, which he claimed would accomplish the object more efficiently. The paper elicited some discussion, which was participated in by R. E. Rogers, the President and the speaker.

The next paper announced was by Col. A. S. Gear, of Boston, Mass., upon A New Stone Working Machine. The speaker, after a general description of his device, and its peculiar advantages, referred to the samples of dressed and ornamental specimens of various

stones, which lay upon the table for inspection, as evidences of the capacity of the machine.

The paper in question will be found published in the *Journal* of the Institute for October, 1873.

Under the head of deferred business, the President announced the consideration of a resolution, presented by Mr. S. Lloyd Wiegand, at the last meeting of the Institute, as follows:

“Resolved. That a special committee of five members be appointed by the Chair, and announced at the next meeting of the Institute, to inquire into the expediency of introducing a system of uniform standard screw-threads, for tubing, and if, in their judgment, it appears expedient, to report such a system to be recommended by the Institute to manufacturers, for general adoption.”

Mr. Wiegand moved to refer the subject of his resolution to the Committee on Sciences and the Arts. Carried.

Under the head of new business the President stated the business of the meeting to be the consideration of the motion of Mr. Robert Briggs, of which notice was given by Mr. Briggs at the last meeting, namely, to abolish Section 2d of Article xi of the By-Laws, referring to the Committee on Science and the Arts.

Mr. Briggs, in defence of his motion to abolish, made an address to the Institute, the tenor of which was to show that the period of usefulness of a committee, so constituted as the one under consideration, had passed.

Mr. John C. Cresson, in reply, gave a review of the past history of the Committee, and its opportunities for usefulness at present.

Mr. Orr followed with similar tenor, and in conclusion moved to indefinitely postpone the motion to abolish.

Mr. Cresson requested a withdrawal of the motion to postpone, in order that a square action might be had upon the motion to abolish. By consent, Mr. Orr withdrew his motion, whereupon a vote was taken upon the original motion of Mr. Briggs, which was lost.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned.

WILLIAM H. WAHL, *Secretary.*

Proceedings of the Stated Meeting, June 18, 1873.

The meeting was called to order at the usual hour. In the absence of the President, Mr. Chas. J. Close was called to the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Actuary submitted the minute of the Board of Managers,