it necessary to perform the process of several operations or-boilings. The lees, after having imparted their free caustic alkali to the fat, are drawn from the copper, and are then termed spent lees; they, of course, consist of the neutral salts and carbonate of soda, with a portion of the animal fat held in solution. In order to recover their alkaline parts, the spent lees undergo a process termed black-ash making, but which it is here unnecessary to describe; it is, however, an expensive process, and exceedingly offensive. On this account it is dispensed with in several manufactories; the spent lees are sold for a very trifling consideration, and in other cases even thrown away. Although the neutral salts form no part of the composition of soap, yet, according to the present method of making it, their presence in the lee is absolutely necessary; and in some cases where alkalis are employed, which either do not contain them at all, or in too small quantities, common salt is employed to supply the deficiency.

By referring to the preceding specification, it will be seen that, instead of requiring the presence of neutral salt in the lees, they are divested of that and all other extraneous matter, pure soda only being used, thereby rendering it totally unnecessary to put into the copper any thing that does not enter into the composition of the soap.

The advantages of this method will be easily perceived by those engaged in the manufacturing of soap; for, as there are no spent lees to withdraw from the copper, there can be no waste either of alkali or tallow, nor can there be any black-ash making; besides which, the principal causes that render soap-works so generally obnoxious are removed; and the process considerably shortened.

It is affirmed that this method of soap making is applicable to all the various sorts at present in use, and that the soap so made will suffer in no respect by comparison with those manufactured in the ordinary way.

The inventor flatters himself that as a pure soda can be most economically procured from the British alkali obtained from the decomposition of salt, a great extension of this article of domestic manufacture will prove a result of his improvements. [Ib.]

FRANKLIN INSTITUTE.

Twenty-fifth Quarterly Meeting.

The twenty-fifth quarterly meeting of the Institute was held at their Hall on Thursday evening, April 15, 1830.

JAMES RONALDSON, president, in the chair.

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

The quarterly report of the Board of Managers, and also of the treasurer, were severally read and accepted, when, on motion it was resolved, that the report of the Board be referred to the committee on publications, to publish such parts as they may deem expedient.

The chairman of the Board of Managers read the following resolution, postponed at their last meeting, viz.

Resolved, that it be recommended to the Institute, at their next

quarterly meeting, to cause the rooms recently occupied by the United States court, to be fitted up as a reading room for the use of the members, and to cause the library, minerals and models, to be arranged therein, and that they be requested to adopt measures for raising funds to defray the expenses of said arrangement.

Whereupon, the following resolution passed, viz.

Resolved, that the recommendation of the Board of Managers, that the rooms in the Hall of the Institute recently occupied by the circuit and district courts of the United States, be fitted up for a reading room for the use of the members, and for the library and the cabinets of minerals and models, be adopted.

Resolved, that a committee of fifteen members be appointed with authority to collect subscriptions for the purpose of fitting up the rooms.

Resolved, that said committee be instructed to have the rooms prepared, and give public notice thereof to the members.

Whereupon, the following gentlemen were appointed on the committee.

Messrs. Samuel V. Merrick,	Samuel J. Robbins,
Abraham Miller,	M. W. Baldwin,
James Hogan,	James Baker,
John S. Warner,	David S. Brown,
Thomas Fletcher,	William S. Perot,
William A. Blanchard,	E. W. Keyser,
John W. Henry,	Isaiah Lukens.
George W. Smith,	

Resolved, that the above committee act in conjunction with the library committee, and prepare such rules for the government of the reading room and management of the library, as they may deem expedient, and report to the next quarterly meeting of the Institute.

Resolved, that the committee on publications be instructed to exchange the Journal of the Institute for periodicals and newspapers, as extensively as possible.

JAMES RONALDSON, *President.*

ISAAC B. GARRIGUES, *Recording Secretary.*

Twenty-fifth Quarterly Report of the Board of Managers of the Franklin Institute.

THE Board of Managers, in compliance with the directions of the constitution, submit a report of their transactions for the first quarter of the present official year.

Of the various enterprises that have been undertaken by the Institute, the experiments for the determination of the value of water as a moving power, hold the first rank, whether we consider the importance of the subject to the country, or the credit that its successful determination will obtain for the society. The immense capital that is invested in manufactories, the machinery of which