

banks of dry and fine sand inclined at 31° , will report whether they yield deep sounds when disturbed.

May 20, 1889.

STATED MEETING.

The President, DR. NEWBERRY, in the chair.

Eighty-four persons present.

The list of publications received since the last meeting was read.

The paper of the evening consisted of a lecture entitled

ICELAND, ITS HISTORY, PEOPLE, AND SCENERY,

by PROFESSOR CHARLES SPRAGUE SMITH, of Columbia College, illustrated with a series of lantern views, from photographs taken during the summer of 1888, and with specimens from the celebrated Iceland geysers.

The discovery of Iceland; its colonization and settlement in connection with political feuds and disturbances in Scandinavia; the new field of activity and enterprise opened to the Norse voyagers in the direction of Western exploration, as the increasing power and stability of the European nations cut off the possibility and profit of their marauding expeditions to the coasts lying south and east; the rise of Icelandic literature and the peculiarities of the language; the growth of a social and political system at once free, simple, and strong; the discovery of Greenland, and thence of the Western Continent;—were all treated of in very clear and interesting connection. PROF. SMITH then described the leading geographical features of the island, and the present state of society and life among its people.

A unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to the lecturer at the close.
