

lution, but let us try it with a candle. Ah! you see it is too foul altogether to support the combustion of a candle.

I wish I could tell you something about the composition of that jar of air; but really, I know nothing about it as I ought to know, nor does any one else. The doctors tell us that one-half of all who die are killed by foul air; but I believe there is not a medical college in the whole country that pretends to teach the careful analysis of this said air. They will spend month after month discussing, and write volume upon volume to prove, that the ten-thousandth part of one drop of medicine will have more effect than a whole spoonful; but as to teaching the analysis of anything quite so common as the air we breathe, that would be too commonplace entirely; so I must simply repeat, we know nothing about it. But there have been a few Germans and Swiss, and some others, who have been able to tear themselves away from the fascinating study of medicine, long enough to make a few preliminary experiments on the more urgently important subject of the air we breathe, and to endeavor to ascertain the effect of the air upon the body, and, reciprocally, of the body upon the air.

(To be continued.)

Franklin Institute.

Proceedings of the Stated Monthly Meeting, October 21st, 1868.

THE meeting was called to order with the Vice-President, Mr. Coleman Sellers, in the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Actuary submitted the minutes of the Board of Managers, and reported the donations to the Library received at their stated meeting held October, 14th inst., from the Society of Arts, London, and the Association for the Prevention of Steam Boiler Explosions, Manchester, England; l'Academie des Sciences, l'Ecole des Mines, Paris; la Société Industrielle, Mulhouse, France; der K. K. Geologischen, Reichsanstalt, Vienna, Austria; and Samuel Hart, Esq., Philadelphia.

The various Standing Committees reported their minutes.

The report of the Resident Secretary, on Novelties in Science and Arts was read, after which the meeting, on motion, adjourned.

HENRY MORTON, *Secretary.*