

ground water above the edge of that clay mass, less the loss in transmission.

3. The dip of the strata is, therefore, immaterial, and flows, in many cases, are produced against or up the dip.

4. The slope of this ground water table is so precipitous at the heads of many of the deep reentrant bays on the north shore that a slight difference in porosity is sufficient to determine an artesian horizon, and wells in such situations and which penetrate nothing but sand and gravel are frequently artesian.

ALFRED H. BROOKS,  
*Secretary.*

#### THE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE five hundred and eighty-fifth meeting was held April 22 and 23 jointly with the American Physical Society. Reports of the papers read during the day sessions will appear in the proceedings of that society.

On Friday evening Mr. Alexander Graham Bell delivered a lecture on 'Tetrahedral Kites,' exhibiting numerous small kites and the cells out of which large structures are built up, and many lantern views of the large kites he has flown at his experiment station in Nova Scotia. The noteworthy features developed by the experiments were the great strength combined with lightness of the kites for a given lifting power; their ability to rise more nearly vertically above the point of attachment at the ground than other forms of kites; and their remarkable steadiness, especially when the broadside is toward the wind. The speaker intends to carry on his experiments during the coming summer.

CHARLES K. WEAD,  
*Secretary.*

#### THE ASSOCIATION OF OHIO TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE.

THE association was organized at a meeting held in Columbus, April 2, 1904. At this meeting the following papers were read and discussed:

PRES. CHARLES S. HOWE, The Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland: 'The Effect of Entrance Examinations upon the Mathematical Work of the Preparatory School and the College.'

DR. GEORGE BRUCE HALSTED, Kenyon College, Gambier: 'The Value of Non-Euclidean Geometry to the Teacher.'

PROFESSOR FRANKLIN I. JONES, University School, Cleveland: 'The Laboratory Method in High School Mathematics.'

In his paper Dr. Halsted pointed out that the results of the recent studies on the foundations of geometry now permit a simple and rigorous treatment of elementary geometry without the introduction of either continuity or limits. The constructions of elementary geometry are possible without the compasses by means of the rules alone.

#### THE NORTHEASTERN SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

THE fifty-second meeting of the section was held Friday evening, April 22, at Huntington Hall, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, with President W. H. Walker in the chair. About 650 members and friends were present. Professor W. P. Bradley, of Wesleyan University, gave an address on 'Efficiency Tests of the Wesleyan Liquid Air Plant and Demonstration of Liquid Air,' in which he described, and illustrated with lantern slides, the plant at Wesleyan University for the manufacture of liquid air, while the latter part of the lecture was devoted to a description of the properties of liquid air, which were demonstrated by numerous experiments.

ARTHUR M. COMEY,  
*Secretary.*

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

##### ELLIPTICAL HUMAN ERYTHROCYTES.

I WAS much interested in a note by Professor Melvin Dresbach, of the Ohio State University, published in *SCIENCE*, March 18, 1904, giving an account of examinations of human blood, in which about ninety per cent. of the red corpuscles were oval. What rendered this observation remarkable—and indeed unique—was the statement that:

The student in whose blood these corpuscles were found was a healthy mulatto about twenty-two years of age. His brother, who attended the university a few years ago, had normal red blood cells. Other than this no family history is at hand.