



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

SCIENCE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, PUBLISHING THE OFFICIAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: S. NEWCOMB, Mathematics; R. S. WOODWARD, Mechanics; E. C. PICKERING, Astronomy; T. C. MENDENHALL, Physics; R. H. THURSTON, Engineering; IRA REMSEN, Chemistry; CHARLES D. WALCOTT, Geology; W. M. DAVIS, Physiography; HENRY F. OSBORN, Paleontology; W. K. BROOKS, C. HART MERRIAM, Zoology; S. H. SCUDDER, Entomology; C. E. BESSEY, N. L. BRITTON, Botany; C. S. MINOT, Embryology, Histology; H. P. BOWDITCH, Physiology; J. S. BILLINGS, Hygiene; WILLIAM H. WELCH, Pathology; J. McKEEN CATTELL, Psychology; J. W. POWELL, Anthropology.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1902.

THE STORY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS.

CONTENTS:

<i>The Story of the Establishment of the National Bureau of Standards: PRESIDENT HENRY S. PRITCHETT</i>	281
<i>The Astronomical and Astrophysical Society of America (II.): W. S. EICHELBERGER</i>	284
<i>The Relation of the American Society of Naturalists to other Scientific Societies: PROFESSOR E. A. BIRGE</i>	299
<i>Alpheus Hyatt: SAMUEL HENSHAW</i>	300
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>	
<i>Baldwin's Dictionary of Philosophy and Psychology: PROFESSOR FRANK THILLY. Botanical Survey of the Dismal Swamp: DR. FREDERIC E. CLEMENTS. Monographie der Termiten Afrikas: N. BANKS</i>	302
<i>Scientific Journals and Articles</i>	307
<i>Societies and Academies:—</i>	
<i>The Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society: HENRY FAY. New York Academy of Sciences, Section of Anthropology and Psychology: DR. R. S. WOODWORTH. Section of Astronomy, Physics and Chemistry: DR. F. L. TUFTS. Zoological Club of the University of Chicago: DR. C. M. CHILD. The Texas Academy of Sciences: PROFESSOR F. W. SIMONDS. The Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society: PROFESSOR CHAS. BASKERVILLE</i>	308
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>A Geographical Society of North America: PROFESSOR W. M. DAVIS. The Rise of Alkali Salts to the Soil Surface: PROFESSOR E. W. HILGARD. Reprints of Scientific Papers: DR. ROBERT MACDOUGALL. The Sacramento Forests of New Mexico: DR. ROBERT T. HILL</i>	313
<i>Shorter Articles:—</i>	
<i>The Embryo of Nymphæa: HENRY S. COLEMAN</i>	316
<i>William LeRoy Broun</i>	316
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	317
<i>University and Educational News</i>	320

MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

THE passage of a bill, during the closing days of the last session of Congress, providing for the establishment of a National Bureau of Standards, came as a surprise to many. As the work of this bureau ought in the future to have a large bearing upon science and industry it may not be without interest to record the circumstances under which this legislation was effected, and to bring to the attention of those who in the future may be interested in the matter the names of a few men who, though not men of science, gave their time and labor heartily in the interest of this work. It has so happened that, although my own part in this has been very small, the circumstances have been known to me.

The National Bureau of Standards, as the new title reads, grew out of what has been called for many years the Office of Weights and Measures. In the early thirties large discrepancies were discovered in the weights and measures of the United States in the various custom-houses, and Congress authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a shop for the manufacture of uniform standards. In 1836 provision was made for similar standards for the different states, and the 'Office of Standard Weights and Measures' was established.