

British Association for the Advancement of Science,

22, ALBEMARLE STREET,

LONDON, W.

March 18, 1886.

Dear Sir,

The enclosed proof will show you what was done at the last Council meeting. With the exception of Professor A. Marshall all the sectional officers then nominated have accepted office, and Professor Rutherford has undertaken to deliver one of the evening discourses.

Yours faithfully,

J. B. Stewardson.

For W. Dawson, C.M.S.

COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

[Unconfirmed Minutes for the use of the Members of the Council only.]

At a Meeting of the Council of the British Association, held at the Office of the Association, 22 Albemarle Street, London, March 5, 1886.

Present,—

PROFESSOR A. W. WILLIAMSON, Treasurer, in the Chair.

CAPTAIN ABNEY.
W. T. BLANFORD, ESQ.
PROF. T. G. BONNEY.
W. CROOKES, ESQ.
DR. DE LA RUE.
CAPT. DOUGLAS GALTON.
DR. J. H. GLADSTONE.

A. VERNON HARCOURT, ESQ.
ADMIRAL SIR E. OMMANNEY.
PROF. MCLEOD.
J. B. MARTIN, ESQ.
P. L. SCLATER, ESQ.
SIR R. TEMPLE.

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.
2. The Council were informed that the majority of the gentlemen requested to act as sectional officers at Birmingham had agreed to do so; the following, however, had declined:—

Section A.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Prof. Hicks.
Section B.—*Vice-President*: Dr. Gore.
Section C.—*Vice-President*: Mr. J. A. Phillips.
Section D.—*Vice-Presidents*: Prof. Allman and Prof. E. Ray Lankester; *Secretary and Recorder*: Mr. Howard Saunders.
Section F.—*Recorder* (but retaining the Secretaryship): Prof. Foxwell.

It was therefore resolved to nominate the following:—

Section A.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Mr. R. E. Baynes.
Section B.—*Vice-President*: Dr. W. H. Perkin.
Section C.—*Vice-President*: Dr. H. Woodward.
Section D.—*Vice-Presidents*: Professor Schäfer and Mr. P. L. Sclater;
Secretary and Recorder: Mr. W. Heape.
Section F.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Rev. W. Cunningham.

It was also resolved to nominate Dr. W. W. J. Nicol and Mr. W. W. Watts additional Secretaries of Sections B and C respectively, and Prof. A. Marshall an additional Vice-President of Section F.

3. The Council were informed that Sir John Lubbock was unable to deliver one of the evening discourses at Birmingham; it was resolved to ask Professor Rutherford to undertake the duty.

Paul A. W. Williams
March 1887

4. The issue of the usual circular to Corresponding Members relating to the Birmingham meeting was authorised.
5. The question of the Presidency for 1887 having been again considered, it was resolved that Professor Sir H. E. Roscoe, LL.D., F.R.S., be requested to allow himself to be nominated President for the Annual Meeting at Manchester in 1887.
6. The following applications were granted: From Mr. Glazebrook, for 50 extra copies of his Report on Optical Theories; and from Mr. Wilson, for 250 copies (at his own expense) of his abstract, 'The New Man of Mentone.'

The Council then adjourned.

PROFESSOR A. W. WILLIAMS, President in the Chair.
A. VERNON HARRISON, Esq.
ADMIRAL SIR R. QUINLAN.
PROF. MATHSON.
A. R. MATHIE, Esq.
P. L. SCOTLAND, Esq.
SIR R. TAYLOR.
CAPTAIN ARMY.
W. T. BLAZSDON, Esq.
PROF. T. G. BOWEN.
W. CHICKER, Esq.
DR. DE LA RUE.
CAPT. DOUGLAS GATTON.
DR. J. H. GLAZEBROOK.

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.
2. The Council were informed that the majority of the gentlemen requested to act as sectional officers at Birmingham had agreed to do so; the following however, had declined:—
Section A—Secretary and Recorder: Prof. Hicks.
Section B—Vice-President: Dr. Goss.
Section C—Vice-President: Mr. J. A. Phillips.
Section D—Vice-President: Prof. Wilson and Prof. E. Ray Lankester; Secretary and Recorder: Mr. Rowland Saunders.
Section E—Secretary (not retaining the Secretaryship): Prof. Forwell.
It was therefore resolved to nominate the following:—
Section A—Secretary and Recorder: Mr. R. H. Taylor.
Section B—Vice-President: Dr. W. H. Perkin.
Section C—Vice-President: Dr. H. Woodworth.
Section D—Vice-President: Professor Schaller and Mr. F. L. Schaller; Secretary and Recorder: Mr. W. Hasper.
Section E—Secretary and Recorder: Rev. W. Cunningham.
It was also resolved to nominate Dr. W. W. J. Nicol and Mr. W. W. White additional Secretaries of Section B and C respectively, and Prof. A. Marshall an additional Vice-President of Section E.
3. The Council were informed that the John Lubbock was unable to deliver one of the evening discourses at Birmingham; it was resolved to ask Professor Blandford to undertake the duty.

Report of the Committee, consisting of Professors A. JOHNSON (Secretary), J. G. MACGREGOR, J. B. CHERRIMAN, H. T. BOVEY, and Mr. C. CARPMAEL, appointed for the purpose of promoting Tidal Observations in Canada.

The Committee have represented to the Canadian Government the importance of publishing tide-tables for Canadian waters, and the necessity for this purpose of establishing stations for continuous tidal observations, recommending that the observations be subsequently reduced by the methods of the British Association.

They have pointed to the example of the United States Government, which has provided tide-tables for both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

In urging the practical side of the question they have more especially referred to the tide-tables for British and Irish ports published by the Admiralty, which give the rate and set of the tidal currents in the waters surrounding the British islands; and they have drawn attention to the heavy annual losses caused by ignorance of these currents in Canadian waters, as shown by the wreck list.

In order to strengthen their representation from this point of view, they deemed it well to get the opinions of Boards of Trade and shipowners and shipmasters. On inquiry it appeared that the Montreal Board of Trade were at the very time considering the question, which had been brought independently before them. On learning the object of the Committee they gave it their most hearty support, and addressed a strong memorial on the subject to the Dominion Government.

The Boards of Trade of the other chief ports of the Dominion also sent similar memorials. The shipowners and masters of ships, to whom application was made, were practically unanimous in their testimony as to the pressing need for knowledge on the subject.

The representations of your Committee were made through the Minister of Marine, with whom an interview was obtained, at which a memorial was submitted. Copies of the answers of the shipmasters (a large number of which had been received) were submitted at the same time. Full explanations, in reply to the inquiries of the Minister, were given, more especially on practical points connected with the proposed observations at fixed stations and the reductions, for which your Committee are largely indebted to a corresponding committee appointed by the Council, consisting of the Right Hon. Sir Lyon Playfair, Professor J. Couch Adams, Sir William Thomson, and Professor Darwin.

During the session of Parliament the Royal Society of Canada also addressed petitions to the Governor-General and the two Houses of Parliament, strongly urging the need of tidal observations.

The reply of the Minister of Marine stated that owing to the large outlay on the Georgian Bay Survey, and on the expedition to Hudson's Bay during the past summer (1885), the Government did not propose to take action in the matter of tidal observations at present. This unfavourable answer, it will be observed, is made to depend on a temporary financial condition, and your Committee have reason to believe that if the financial prospects improve by next session of Parliament the Government will take the matter into earnest consideration; they therefore suggest that the Committee be reappointed.

COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

[*Unconfirmed Minutes for the use of the Members of the Council only.*]

At a Meeting of the Council of the British Association, held at the Office of the Association, 22 Albemarle Street, London, May 7, 1886

Present,—

SIR LYON PLAYFAIR, President, in the Chair.

W. T. BLANFORD, ESQ.
PROF. T. G. BONNEY.
SIR F. BRAMWELL.
DR. DE LA RUE.
PROF. W. H. FLOWER.
CAPT. DOUGLAS GALTON.
F. GALTON, ESQ.

DR. J. H. GLADSTONE.
G. GRIFFITH, ESQ.
A. VERNON HARCOURT, ESQ.
PROF. H. MCLEOD.
J. B. MARTIN, ESQ.
THOS. MARTINEAU, ESQ.
P. L. SCLATER, ESQ.

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

2. The General Treasurer's Report was read and received:—Balance brought forward, £2,239. 4s. 8d.; received for life compositions and subscriptions, £36; interest on Exchequer Bills, £19. 6s. 8d.; sale of publications, £5. 15s. 3d.; total, £2,300. 6s. 7d. Expenditure:—Salaries (one quarter), £130; rent (one quarter), petty cash, and expenses of Mr. Dixon's lecture at Aberdeen, £45. 1s.; on account of grants made at Aberdeen, £80; balance at Bank of England (Western Branch), £2,027. 9s. 5d.; in hands of Assistant to General Treasurer, £17. 16s. 2d.; total, £2,300. 6s. 7d.

3. The Council were informed that the following gentlemen, nominated at the last Council Meeting, had accepted office for the Birmingham Meeting:—

Section A.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Mr. R. E. Baynes.

Section B.—*Vice-President*: Dr. W. H. Perkin; *Secretary*: Dr. W. W. J. Nicol.

Section C.—*Vice-President*: Dr. H. Woodward; *Secretary*: Mr. W. W. Watts.

Section D.—*Vice-Presidents*: Professor Schäfer and Mr. P. L. Sclater; *Secretary and Recorder*: Mr. W. Heape.

Section F.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Rev. W. Cunningham.

And that Professor Rutherford had undertaken to deliver one of the evening discourses; but that Prof. A. Marshall was unable to accept the Vice-Presidency of Section F.

4. It was resolved to nominate the Earl of Dartmouth a Vice-President of the Association.

5. A Report from the Committee appointed to consider the question of a memorial to the Government in regard to the enlargement of the

existing Agricultural Department of the Privy Council (*see* Minutes February 5, § 10), was received and was ordered to be printed and circulated among the Members of the Council with a view to its being considered at the next meeting.

6. A Report from the Committee appointed to consider the question of a memorial to the Government in regard to undertaking a more systematic collection and annual publication of statistics of wages (*see* Minutes February 5, § 11), which stated that the Committee were of opinion "that, in view of the recent promise of the President of the Board of Trade in Parliament as to the collection of statistics of wages, it is inexpedient, at present, to memorialise H.M. Government on the subject," and recommended that the Committee "be empowered by Council to communicate if necessary with the Department engaged in the collection of statistics of wages, with the view of eliciting information as to the method proposed to be employed, and to make such suggestions as appear to be expedient," was received and adopted.

7. A Report from the Committee appointed to consider the question of a modification of the rules regarding the hour of Sectional Meetings (*see* Minutes November, 17, 1885), was received and after consideration adopted in the following form: "That there appears to be no necessity for altering the general rules, the resolution passed at Southport meeting the case of Saturday."

8. A Report from the Committee appointed to consider the question of the desirability of admitting ladies as officers of the Association, &c. (*see* Minutes February 5, § 9), was received and was ordered to be printed and circulated among the Members of the Council with a view to its being considered at the next Meeting.

9. A Report from the General Officers on the desirability of delivering lectures in elementary schools, &c., during the Annual Meeting (*see* Minutes, February 5, § 13) was received, but was not adopted.

10. The Council were informed that Professor Sir H. E. Roscoe had accepted the nomination of the Council to the Presidency for 1887.

11. A letter from the Mayor of Bath inviting the Association to meet in that city in 1888 was received and referred to the General Committee.

12. The Council having been informed that the Montreal Local Committee had forwarded a number of copies of "Canadian Economics," with a request that they might be distributed to certain Members of the Association, it was resolved that such distribution be made at the expense of the Association.

13. An application from Mr. J. B. Spence for certain unclaimed volumes of the Reports was granted.

14. The following applications were granted:—From Professor Lodge, for 150 copies of his paper on Electrolysis; from the Coast Erosion Committee for (a) 250 copies of the Report; (b) 50 separate copies of Mr. Whitaker's list contained therein; and (c) a cliché of a woodcut for Mr. Woodward (at his own expense).

The Council then adjourned.

For the use of the Members of the Council only.

The Committee of Council, consisting of the President and Officers, Lord Rayleigh, Dr. Gladstone, Professor Bonney, and Mr. Griffith, appointed to consider the following reference from the General Committee: 'That the Council be requested to consider the desirability of admitting ladies as Officers of the Association, or as Members of the General or Sectional Committees,' beg leave to report as follows:

That in the opinion of the Committee it is desirable that ladies should be eligible (1) as Members of Committees of Sections in case their assistance is desired by those Committees; (2) as Members of the General Committee; (3) for nomination by the Council as Officers of Sections.

COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

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Present,—

PROFESSOR A. W. WILLIAMSON, Treasurer, in the Chair.

CAPTAIN ABNEY.
W. T. BLANFORD, ESQ.
PROF. T. G. BONNEY.
W. CROOKES, ESQ.
DR. DE LA RUE.
CAPT. DOUGLAS GALTON.
DR. J. H. GLADSTONE.

A. VERNON HARCOURT, ESQ.
ADMIRAL SIR E. OMMANNEY.
PROF. MCLEOD.
J. B. MARTIN, ESQ.
P. L. SCLATER, ESQ.
SIR R. TEMPLE.

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

2. The Council were informed that the majority of the gentlemen requested to act as sectional officers at Birmingham had agreed to do so; the following, however, had declined:—

Section A.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Prof. Hicks.

Section B.—*Vice-President*: Dr. Gore.

Section C.—*Vice-President*: Mr. J. A. Phillips.

Section D.—*Vice-Presidents*: Prof. Allman and Prof. E. Ray Lankester; *Secretary and Recorder*: Mr. Howard Saunders.

Section F.—*Recorder* (but retaining the Secretaryship): Prof. Foxwell.

It was therefore resolved to nominate the following:—

Section A.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Mr. R. E. Baynes.

Section B.—*Vice-President*: Dr. W. H. Perkin.

Section C.—*Vice-President*: Dr. H. Woodward.

Section D.—*Vice-Presidents*: Professor Schäfer and Mr. P. L. Sclater; *Secretary and Recorder*: Mr. W. Heape.

Section F.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Rev. W. Cunningham.

It was also resolved to nominate Dr. W. W. J. Nicol and Mr. W. W. Watts additional Secretaries of Sections B and C respectively, and Prof. A. Marshall an additional Vice-President of Section F.

3. The Council were informed that Sir John Lubbock was unable to deliver one of the evening discourses at Birmingham; it was resolved to ask Professor Rutherford to undertake the duty.

4. The issue of the usual circular to Corresponding Members relating to the Birmingham meeting was authorised.

5. The question of the Presidency for 1887 having been again considered, it was resolved that Professor Sir H. E. Roscoe, LL.D., F.R.S., be requested to allow himself to be nominated President for the Meeting at Manchester in 1887.

6. The following applications were granted: From Mr. Glazebrook, for 50 extra copies of his Report on Optical Theories; and from Mr. Wilson, for 250 copies (at his own expense) of his abstract, 'The New Man of Mentone.'

The Council then adjourned.

LYON PLAYFAIR.

Confirmed *May 7, 1886.*

Council
Meeting

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6. A Report from the Committee appointed to consider the question of a memorial to the Government in regard to undertaking a more systematic collection and annual publication of statistics of wages (*see* Minutes February 5, § 11), which stated that the Committee were of opinion "that, in view of the recent promise of the President of the Board of Trade in Parliament as to the collection of statistics of wages, it is inexpedient, at present, to memorialise H.M. Government on the subject," and recommended that the Committee "be empowered by Council to communicate if necessary with the Department engaged in the collection of statistics of wages, with the view of eliciting information as to the method proposed to be employed, and to make such suggestions as appear to be expedient," was received and adopted.

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The Council then adjourned.

LYON PLAYFAIR.

Confirmed:—July 27, 1886.

COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

At a Meeting of the Council of the British Association, held at the Office of the Association, 22 Albemarle Street, London, May 7, 1886

Present,—

SIR LYON PLAYFAIR, President, in the Chair.

W. T. BLANFORD, ESQ.
PROF. T. G. BONNEY.
SIR F. BRAMWELL.
DR. DE LA RUE.
PROF. W. H. FLOWER.
CAPT. DOUGLAS GALTON.
F. GALTON, ESQ.

DR. J. H. GLADSTONE.
G. GRIFFITH, ESQ.
A. VERNON HARCOURT, ESQ.
PROF. H. MCLEOD.
J. B. MARTIN, ESQ.
THOS. MARTINEAU, ESQ.
P. L. SCLATER, ESQ.

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.
2. The General Treasurer's Report was read and received:—Balance brought forward, £2,239. 4s. 8d.; received for life compositions and subscriptions, £36; interest on Exchequer Bills, £19. 6s. 8d.; sale of publications, £5. 15s. 3d.; total, £2,300. 6s. 7d. Expenditure:—Salaries (one quarter), £130; rent (one quarter), petty cash, and expenses of Mr. Dixon's lecture at Aberdeen, £45. 1s.; on account of grants made at Aberdeen, £80; balance at Bank of England (Western Branch), £2,027. 9s. 5d.; in hands of Assistant to General Treasurer, £17. 16s. 2d.; total, £2,300. 6s. 7d.
3. The Council were informed that the following gentlemen, nominated at the last Council Meeting, had accepted office for the Birmingham Meeting:—

Section A.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Mr. R. E. Baynes.
Section B.—*Vice-President*: Dr. W. H. Perkin; *Secretary*: Dr. W. W. J. Nicol.
Section C.—*Vice-President*: Dr. H. Woodward; *Secretary*: Mr. W. W. Watts.
Section D.—*Vice-Presidents*: Professor Schäfer and Mr. P. L. Sclater; *Secretary and Recorder*: Mr. W. Heape.
Section F.—*Secretary and Recorder*: Rev. W. Cunningham.

And that Professor Rutherford had undertaken to deliver one of the evening discourses; but that Prof. A. Marshall was unable to accept the Vice-Presidency of Section F:
4. It was resolved to nominate the Earl of Dartmouth a Vice-President of the Association.
5. A Report from the Committee appointed to consider the question of a memorial to the Government in regard to the enlargement of the existing Agricultural Department of the Privy Council (*see* Minutes February 5, § 10), was received and was ordered to be printed and

COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

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Present,—

SIR LYON PLAYFAIR, President, in the Chair.

PROF. T. G. BONNEY.
SIR F. BRAMWELL.
W. CROOKES, ESQ.
SIR WILLIAM DAWSON.
PROF. DEWAR.
PROF. W. H. FLOWER.
CAPT. DOUGLAS GALTON.

G. GRIFFITH, ESQ.
A. VERNON HARCOURT, ESQ.
DR. HIRST.
PROF. H. MCLEOD.
J. B. MARTIN, ESQ.
P. L. SCLATER, ESQ.
W. T. THISELTON DYER, ESQ.

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.
2. The General Treasurer's Report was read and received:—Balance brought forward, £2,045. 5s. 7d.; received for life compositions and subscriptions, £85; sale of publications, £59. 6s. 2d.; total, £2,189. 11s. 9d. Expenditure: Payment of rent, petty cash expenses, and salaries, £179. 5s.; on account of grants made at Aberdeen, £190. 0s. 6d.; balance in hand, £1,820. 6s. 3d.; total, £2,189. 11s. 9d.
3. The Report of the Committee appointed (*see* Minutes, February 5, § 10) to consider the presentation to Government of a memorial on the subject of the Agricultural Department of the Privy Council was received, and it was resolved that the Council are not at present prepared to memorialise the Government on the subject of the Agricultural Department.
4. The Report of the Committee appointed to consider the question of the desirability of admitting ladies as officers of the Association, &c. (*see* Minutes, February 5, § 9; May 7, § 8), was considered, and it was resolved that it should not be adopted.
5. The Report of the Committee appointed (*see* Minutes, February 5, § 8) to consider the proposal of holding a General International Congress was received and adopted.
6. Letters from the Canadian Government respecting the preservation of records of the Native Races of the Dominion were received and ordered to be printed and circulated among the Council, and copies furnished to the Sections interested in the subject at the Birmingham meeting.

7. The proposal to allot the seats in the Birmingham Town Hall by ballot was adopted, the Secretary being instructed to see that a sufficient number of seats be reserved for distinguished visitors and others for whom it is usual to make special arrangements.

8. It was resolved that a letter be written to the Right Honourable the Marquis of Lorne, and a similar letter to the Right Honourable the Marquis of Lansdowne, expressing the hope of the Council that they will be able to attend the meeting of the Association about to be held at Birmingham, under the presidency of Sir William Dawson, C.M.G., F.R.S., and the wish of the Council to nominate them as Vice-Presidents of the meeting.

9. Permission to print their Addresses was granted to Professor Henrici and Professor Chrystal, and the request of Mrs. Jenkin, respecting the printing of the late Professor Fleeming Jenkin's paper, was acceded to.

10. Sir Lyon Playfair announced his inability to be present at the Birmingham meeting, and obtained the consent of the Council to his being represented by the Right Hon. Lord Rayleigh on the occasion of the introduction of the President Elect to the meeting.

11. The applications for the Annual Report from the Cumberland and Westmoreland Association, the Journal of the Institute of Bankers, the Magnetic and Meteorological Observatory of Batavia, and from Professor T. McK. Hughes on behalf of M. Nikitin, of the Institute des Mines, St. Petersburg, were refused.

12. A letter from Lord Dartmouth declining to act as a Vice-President at the Birmingham meeting was read.

The Council then adjourned.