

States National Museum; and "The Expenditures of Foreign Governments in Behalf of History," by Professor J. F. Jamieson, Brown University. Election of officers for the ensuing year, and report of committees, followed the reading of these papers. The following were the officers elected: president, the Hon. William Wirt Henry of Richmond, Va.; vice-president, James B. Angel, president University of Michigan; second vice-president, Henry Adams of the District of Columbia; secretary, Herbert B. Adams, professor of history, Johns Hopkins University; assistant secretary and curator, A. G. Clark; treasurer, C. W. Bowen of New York.

The committee on time and place of meeting reported Washington as the proper place for the next meeting, and during the holidays as the proper time.

The annual meeting of the association was in every way a success. There was a large attendance, the papers were interesting, and the discussions that were evoked, spirited and instructive.

#### THE AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION.

THE American Economic Association held its fourth annual meeting Dec. 26-30, in Washington. The association numbers between six hundred and seven hundred members, and includes among this number all the professors of political and social science in American colleges and universities, besides many others prominent in economic studies. The next number of its publications will complete its fifth volume of economic monographs.

The present programme embraced twenty-eight papers. President Francis A. Walker of the association delivered the opening address, in which he commented on the various phases of economic activity as exhibited in the increased attention given to economic study, in the rise of nationalism, the spread of the single-tax idea, the recent silver and financial disturbance, and in the change in the character of immigrants who have arrived on our shores within recent years.

Prominent among the papers read were the reports of the different committees, — on economic theory, by Professor J. B. Clark; on transportation, by Professor E. J. James; on statistics, by Hon. Carroll D. Wright; and on technical education, by President Francis A. Walker. Other papers were, "The Concepts of Utility, Value, and Cost," by Professor F. H. Giddings; "The Term 'Wealth' in Economic Science," by Dr. Charles A. Turtle; "The Ethical Principle in Industrial Relations," by Miss Marietta Kies; "A Contribution to the Theory of Railroad Rates," by Professor F. W. Taussig; "The Relative Cost of Water and Rail Transportation," by Hon. George H. Ely; "The Relation of Railroad Passenger Traffic to Freight Traffic," by Professor E. J. James; "Street-Railway Statistics," by Charles H. Cooley, Esq.; "Statistics as a Means of Correcting Corporate Abuses," by Professor Henry C. Adams; "The Incidence of Local Taxation," by Professor Edwin R. A. Seligman; "Direct Taxation as a Source of Early Federal Revenue," by Dr. Roland P. Falkner; "Crooked Taxation," by Hon. T. G. Shearman; "The Educational Value of Political Economy," by Professor Simon N. Patten; "A Syllabus of Public Economy," by Professor William W. Folwell; "Land Transfer Reform, The Torrens System of Land Registration," by Professor J. W. Jenks; "The Third, i.e., the Social Revolution," by Professor E. P. Cheney; "The Growth and Economic Value of Building and Loan Associations," by Hon. Seymour Dexter; "The Tailoring Trade and Sweating

System," by Miss Katherine Coman; and "Girls' Boarding-Houses," by Robert Stein.

The last session was held jointly with the American Forestry Association, and included papers on "The Duty of Government in Regard to Forests," by Professor E. J. James; "The Present Condition of Forests on Public Lands," by Edward D. Bowers; "Government Forestry Abroad," by Gifford Pinchot; and "The Feasibility of American Forest Administration," by B. E. Fernow.

The meeting just closed was one of the most successful in its history. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: president, F. A. Walker; first vice-president, Professor C. F. Dunbar of Harvard; second vice-president, Professor W. W. Folwell, University of Minnesota; third vice-president, Col. C. D. Wright, Department of Labor; secretary, Richard T. Ely, Johns Hopkins University; treasurer, Frederic B. Hawley, Esq., New York City; publication committee, Professor H. C. Adams, Professor J. B. Clark, F. H. Giddings, Professor F. W. Taussig, and Professor E. R. A. Seligman.

#### EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS IN JAPAN.<sup>1</sup>

THE new era in the history of Japan was inaugurated by the opening of a few treaty ports on the Japanese coast to foreign trade in 1854, and was further marked by the restoration of the Mikado in 1868, and the abolition of feudalism in 1871. Since then immense strides have been made towards an assimilation of the old Japanese-Chinese world to Western civilization. The progress of Western political, commercial, and industrial ideas in Japan has been astounding. There have also been some changes in social life; and in matters educational a somewhat slower, but nevertheless remarkably steady, advance must be recognized. A complete system of primary, secondary, and university instruction has been developed. Primary instruction is imparted in the elementary and higher elementary schools; secondary instruction, in the ordinary middle and in the higher middle schools. In addition to these, there are several commercial schools in different parts of the country, and a higher commercial school in Tokio. There are also agricultural, military, and naval schools and colleges, and there is in the vicinity of Tokio a veterinary college and a forestry school of high standard.

Special attention has been paid to female education. There are two higher female schools in Tokio, in which very creditable work is already done. Great care is taken to teach European methods in the making of clothing, and in other forms of female manual labor, particularly in Tokio and in Kioto. There are, furthermore, a certain number of kindergartens, and two schools for European art and music. Teachers, both men and women, are trained in normal schools. There is one higher normal school in Tokio for the training of teachers for the normal and ordinary middle schools.

Japan, a country of thirty-six millions of inhabitants, possesses but one university, with about seven hundred students, the present Imperial University of Japan, which has sprung from several originally independent establishments. It comprises five faculties or colleges, — those of law, medicine, engineering, literature, and science. The engineering college, which for some time was under the direction of foreign professors, and the medical college, rank comparatively high. In the law college much attention is paid to political economy, and in the literature college to the teaching of history, philosophy, and German literature. Through the impulse given by Dr. Riess, the German professor of history, a special historical department has been established in connection with the university, in which original investigations in Japanese history are conducted by an eminent Japanese professor. The scientific instruments and apparatus used in the engineering, science, and medical colleges, are of the best manufacture, and of latest European models. Recently there has been established in

<sup>1</sup> Abstract of a paper read at the Travellers' Club of the Johns Hopkins University, Oct. 10, 1890, by Dr. Emil Hausknecht of Tokio.