

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1895.

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XLIV. MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, SPRINGFIELD, MASS., AUG. 28th-SEPT. 4th, 1895.

IN 1859 the American Association assembled for its thirteenth meeting in Springfield. After the lapse of thirty-six years the Association has again met in the metropolis of western Massachusetts, this time for its forty-fourth annual gathering, five meetings having been passed on account of the Civil War.

Geographically, Springfield is well located

for a place of meeting, being within easy reach of a large proportion of the members of the Association. For some reason, perhaps, the unusually late date of holding the meeting, the hopes of officers and local committee as to attendance were not realized, it having been the smallest meeting held in the eastern section of the country since that of Saratoga in 1879, and having but slightly exceeded the meetings held in the West. The number of members registered was hardly double that of the earlier Springfield meeting, when 180 were present.

The uncertainty until a late date as to where the meeting would be held, it having been hoped that the railroads would make satisfactory rates to San Francisco, may also have contributed to the smallness of the meeting.

But if the attendance was not what might have been wished, the arrangements by the local committee have rarely been better made. Outside of a University town it is rarely possible to have all the audience rooms in one building, but at Springfield all were in such close proximity that little inconvenience was experienced in going from section to section and to the offices and reception rooms. Every convenience was provided for the members, and the courtesies of the citizens of the city are worthy of special mention. It is, however, unusual that the immediate vicinity of the place of meeting is so meagerly represented among