

# SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1897.

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## THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

THE annual meeting of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington began on Tuesday, the 20th inst., and continued through the following Wednesday and Thursday.

The meeting was remarkable for the unusually small number of scientific papers presented and the unusually large number of obituary notices and biographical memoirs read.

In the order of their presentation the scientific papers were: 'An Experimental Study of the Influence of Environment upon the Biological Processes of the Various Members of the Colon Group of Bacilli,' by Adelaide Ward Peckham (presented by Dr. Billings); 'On the Energy involved in Recent Earthquakes,' by Dr. Mendenhall, who, with Professor A. S. Kimball, presented a second paper on 'A Ring Pendulum for Absolute Determinations of Gravity,' the first being discussed at some length by Professors Agassiz, Rowland, Gilbert, Hastings and Mendenhall; 'On the Variation of Latitude,' by Dr. S. C. Chandler; 'On the Position of the Tarsiids and Relationship to the Phylogeny of Man,' by Dr. Theodore Gill; 'A New Harmonic Analyzer,' by Professors Michelson and S. W. Stratton; 'A report on the Variation of Latitude and Constant of Aberration from Observations at Columbia University,' the joint work of Professors Rees and Jacoby and Dr. Davis, presented