lows: 1. J. A. Mathews, 'The Action of Nitrils upon Aromatic Acids.' 2. E. H. Hodgson, 'The Determination of Sulphur in Asphalts.' 3. S. A. Tucker, 'A Few Remarks on the Persulphates.' 4. W. D. Engle, 'The Action of Metallic Thio-Cynates upon Organic Chlorhydrins.' 5. A. G. Betts, 'Alcoholic Ethers of Nitro, Amido and Oxy Benzyl Alcohol.'

Mr. Hodgson had determined the sulphur in a variety of asphalts by several well-known methods, one of which was modified by the use of sodium peroxide. He found the following amounts of sulphur and differences by the several methods:

	Nitric acid. (Carius).	Sodium. Peroxide.	Deflagration.
Trinidad Lake	4.33	3.77	3.80
" crude	4.10	3.33	3.2
" refined	4.46	4.07	3.6
Cuban crude	3.61	3.10	2.8
Alcatraz crude	5.45	3.98	4.2
California crude	7.51	6.26	6.5

In order to have time to inspect the laboratories it was moved and seconded that the last three papers should be postponed to the next meeting, and after passing a vote of thanks to Dr. Chandler and the authorities of the University a tour of the chemical department laboratories was made.

Durand Woodman,
Secretary.

ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA, MAY 10.

Professor H. A. Pilsbry spoke of certain embryonic or nepionic characters of Bulimulidæ having a bearing on the classification of the group. In the case of some of the young shells a fine grating on the upper whorls comes to a stop where the shell is hatched; in others there is no sculpturing, while in others there are zigzag or equidistant ridges with fine striæ between. These characters can be correlated with peculiarities of the soft anatomy, but not with those of the adult shell. The geographical distribution of the groups thus defined was given, and illustrative specimens of embryonal apices were shown under the microscope.

Professor Pilsbry also made a communication on the results of recent work on the mollusca of Lake Tanganyika and demonstrated the relationship of the halolimic genera to marine forms.

Mr. Joseph Willcox exhibited a fine series of *Cypræa exanthema* and *C. cervus* to sustain his opinion that these species grade into each other and that *cervus* can scarcely be considered even a variety of the other. He believed the mantle filaments of *Cypræa* have a direct influence on the formation of spots on the shell, perhaps secreting the light color to which they were due.

Professor E. G. Conklin read a paper on the environmental and sexual dimorphism of *Crepidula*. The conclusion was reached that it is a case of protandric hermaphroditism and of marked sexual dimorphism. The communication was presented for publication and will appear in the *Proceedings* with illustrations.

Papers on certain aboriginal mounds of the South Carolina coast, the Savannah River, and the Altamaha River, by Clarence B. Moore were also presented for publication and will form part of the next number of the *Journal*.

Edward J. Nolan,
Recording Secretary.

NEW BOOKS.

Outlines of the Earth's History. N. S. Shaler. New York, D. Appleton & Co. 1898. Pp. iv+417. $1.75

Brown Men and Women. Edward Reeves. London, Swan, Sonnenschein & Co.; New York, The Macmillan Company. 1898. Pp. vi+294. $3.50.

The Story of Photography. Alfred T. Story. New York, D. Appleton & Co. 1898. Pp. 169.

Electro-Physiology. W. Biedermann; translated by Frances A. Welby. London and New York, The Macmillan Company. 1898. Vol. II. Pp. vii+500. $5.50.

Organic Chemistry. John Wade. London, Swan, Sonnenschein & Co.; New York, The Macmillan Company. 1898. Pp. xvi+460. $1.75.