the matter, for the names were put forward as a simple recommendation to the Section.

After a discussion in which Messrs. Ayrton, Carpentier, Dorn, Hospitalier, Kohlrausch, Mailloux, Mascart, A. Siemens, Silvanus, Thompson and others took part, Professor Eric Gérard stated that in his opinion it was desirable to come first to a decision that names should be given to the C. G. S. units of magnetic field and to flux of magnetic induction.

M. Mascart, expressing his approbation of this idea, the president of the Section, M. Violle, put the following proposition formally to the meeting:

"The Section recommends the adoption of specific names for the C. G. S. units of magnetic field and of magnetic flux." This proposition being adopted, with only two dissentients, the meeting was adjourned for a short time to enable the members to exchange their views regarding the exact names that should be employed. On the meeting reassembling, the president put the two following propositions successively:

(1) *The Section recommends the adoption of the name of* GAUSS *for the C. G. S. unit of magnetic field.*

(2) *The Section recommends the adoption of the name of* MAXWELL *for the C. G. S. unit of magnetic flux,*

both of which were adopted with only two dissentients.

On the same afternoon these resolutions of Section I. were submitted to the Chamber of Government Delegates to the Congress and adopted, and finally, at the closing meeting of the Congress on Saturday, August 25th, the action which had been taken in the matter was formally reported by M. Paul Janet, one of the two secretaries of the Congress.

THE PROPOSED NATIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU.

THE American Philosophical Society has adopted the following resolution in regard to the proposed National Standards Bureau:

Whereas, In the conduct of accurate scientific investigations, the use of apparatus of guaranteed accuracy is a need recognized by all scientists; and

Whereas, In foreign countries, notably in Germany, in France, and in England, such guarantee is furnished by standardizing bureaux under the control of the respective governments; and

Whereas, At present the United States Office of Standard Weights and Measures does not possess appliances necessary for this verification of as wide a range of apparatus as seems essential, nor the working force required to comply with legitimate demands for the verification and stamping of the various scientific apparatus designed for measurements of precision, thus compelling the importation of foreign-made articles when such official certification is desired; and

Whereas, This state of affairs is not only unsatisfactory to all investigators in both pure and applied science, but also works injustice to our manufacturers of nearly all physical and chemical apparatus designed for accurate measurement, who cannot supply the proper certification with such instruments: therefore be it

Resolved, That the Congress of the United States be urged to establish a National Standards Bureau, in connection with the U. S. Office of Standard Weights and Measures, which shall provide adequate facilities for making such verification of scientific measuring apparatus and stamping the same as are provided by foreign governments for similar work.

Resolved, further, that a copy of the foregoing be forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury, under whose control the present office of Standard Weights and Measures comes; to the Superintendent of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey; to the President of the U. S. Senate; to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; to the Chairman and members of the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, and to any other officials or individuals likely to be interested or influential, with a request for their co-operation in our efforts to secure for the U. S. Office of Standard Weights and Measures ample facilities, in point of apparatus and working force, to enable that office to comply with the requests for the verification of measuring instruments that may be made by American scientific workers.