

# SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1902.

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## THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHEMISTRY.\*

THE American Chemical Society exists for the advancement of chemical science, and the betterment of the chemical profession. Every member of it is supposed to contribute his share of thought and energy to the accomplishment of these ends; and so its work is prosecuted along many lines of activity. During the past ten years the growth of the Society has been most remarkable, and the diversity of its interests is well shown in the pages of its *Journal*. The once doubtful experiment of organization has justified itself by success, and there are no longer any apprehensions as to the future. The Society now stands before the world well established, well recognized, active and vigorous; its days of weakness and danger are over; we can look forward with confidence to greater prosperity, to larger growth, to steadily increasing usefulness. All chemistry is our province, whether it be organic, inorganic, theoretical, physical or applied; and the narrowness of specialism finds its best antidote in the varied interests of our meetings. To promote science and to uphold the dignity of our common profession are the objects which bind us together.

Optimism is a good thing, but it needs to

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\* Presidential address delivered at the Philadelphia meeting of the American Chemical Society, December 30, 1901.