

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, MAY 30, 1902.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.*

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In connection with the so-called form of initiation as prescribed by the constitution of this Society we find this precept, 'The president or his deputy shall explain the aims and objects of the society.'

I understand it to be a common interpretation of this provision that a more or less formal address is to be presented, either by the president of the chapter, or what in the present case at least would be better, by some distinguished member of the society acting as deputy, to retain the phraseology of the written law.

In connection with the exercises of this evening the duty appears to fall upon my shoulders, but it is not my purpose to make this communication either lengthy or formidable.

As to the aims and objects of this society we find them fully set forth in section 2 of the Constitution viz.:

The object of this Society shall be to encourage original investigation in science, pure and applied: by meeting for the discussion of scientific subjects; by the publication of such scientific matter as may be deemed desirable; by establishing fraternal relations among investigators in the scientific centers and by granting the privilege of membership to such students as have, during their college course, given special promise of future achievement.

* Address delivered at the initiation of new members of the University of Pennsylvania Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi, April 18, 1902.