

of new material awaits the advent of the archeologist and ethnologist in these islands.

It is reported that the terrible volcanic eruptions on the island of St. Vincent have blotted out the last remnant of the Caribs, but while local settlements may have been destroyed, the race is not yet extinct on the Lesser Antilles, and is well represented at various points in South and Central America, survivors offering many and instructive results awaiting our investigation. There remain also the kindred people in Guiana and Brazil, to a knowledge of whose life and customs Im Thurm, Ehrenreich and von den Steinen have added so much, and the relatives of the Caribs and Arawak scattered among the numberless tribes of the Oronoco valley, the *terra incognita* of American ethnology.

It is from a view of this kind over a special field that we get some idea of what there is for the anthropologist to do in the future, and the new problems awaiting solution. I have called your attention to only one of many in the science of man. There are more of equal or greater importance awaiting solution, which of late years especially claim the attention and study of American anthropologists. The unknown anthropological material opened to us by territorial growth is vast, and it is natural that when our anthropologists survey this great unknown awaiting research they should be serenely conscious of the future of our science. We have indeed every reason to be proud of the past achievements of American anthropology, in which this section has played a most creditable part, but the work before us is destined to yield still greater results, shedding a still brighter luster on American science.

J. WALTER FEWKES.

REMARKS OF THE RETIRING PRESIDENT  
AND OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT.\*

IN introducing the president of the Association, Dr. Minot, the retiring president said:

My duty is very brief. I come here as the retiring officer of the Association to have, as the last act of my administration, the pleasant duty of handing over the responsibilities to one whom we all hold in the highest respect; one who stands for a very lofty ideal of scientific research; one who has attained, what many scientific men fail to attain, a reputation which extends far beyond the realms of science, practically speaking, for to him was accorded the privilege of discovering one of those features of the heavens which appeal to the imagination, the satellites of Mars. To the popular mind perhaps this great discovery stands as the most prominent service of my successor. I speak, not for myself, but as the mouthpiece of competent astronomers who have told me that this discovery, great as it is, represents only a small part, and not perhaps the greatest part, of the services which Professor Hall has rendered to astronomical science. This Association is indebted to him personally for many years of faithful service, of great helpfulness, and I esteem it the greatest possible honor that after having been myself president of this Association, I should have the pleasure of turning over the duties of the office to Professor Hall.

In replying to the speeches of Dr. Holland and other representatives of the local committee, President Hall said:

The American Association for the Advancement of Science comes to hold its summer meeting in your city. It is fortunate for us to meet in the city of Pittsburgh, famous for its wonderful production of iron and steel, materials which lie

\* Reports received too late for insertion in the last issue of SCIENCE.

at the foundation of modern civilization. We are glad to see the homes of men who are the munificent benefactors of our libraries and of our scientific institutions. We shall be interested in visiting the great shops where you convert the products of a generous nature into articles for our daily use.

Our Association was founded for the encouragement and diffusion of scientific learning. Its creed is very simple. It requires in the novice only will and devotion. It is our business to study the works of nature by observation and experiment, and it is our duty to conform our conduct to her laws. We invite all to join us in this work, for we believe that along this line of investigation lies the true road of progress for the human family. But we are free. We do not wish to impose our ideas on others, but prefer to leave them to the operations of reason and judgment. If a brother goes astray, and tries to square the circle, there is no trial for heresy. We let him alone, feeling sure that time, the implacable enemy of error, will lead him back to the truth. Cicero tells us that time overthrows the opinions of men, and confirms the decisions of nature. With full confidence in this sentiment we go on in our work, 'without haste, and without rest.'

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REPORT OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY.\*

THE fifty-second annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, now drawing to its close, will be known as the first Pittsburgh meeting. In many respects it has been one of the most successful meetings which the Association has ever held. The attendance, while not very large, has been composed of members of the active working class, many of them being fellows, and the meeting

\* Presented at the closing session.

may be safely characterized as a working meeting. The registration has shown four hundred and thirty-five members in attendance. This ranks the Pittsburgh meeting as the twelfth in size of the fifty-two meetings which have been held. It is the fourth in size of the meetings held during the past ten years. The geographic distribution of members in attendance is especially interesting, and those who have had the interest or curiosity to follow this matter of geographic distribution during recent years will notice that this year there is a larger attendance from the South than in any previous year. The exact representation by States has been as follows: Pennsylvania naturally heads the list with 178; New York, 59; Ohio, 49; District of Columbia, 45; Massachusetts, 23; Illinois, 21; Michigan, 10; Indiana, 10; New Jersey and Maryland, 8 each; Missouri, Minnesota, Kansas, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and West Virginia, 6 each; Texas and Nebraska, 5 each; Arkansas and Connecticut, 4 each; Alabama, Delaware, Virginia, California, Kentucky, and Canada, 3 each; Montana, 2; South Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, South Dakota, North Dakota, Mississippi, Iowa, Colorado, and Maine, 1 each.

It must be remembered as usual that the number registered, namely, 435, includes only the active members and associates of the Association, and that as a matter of fact there are always a few members in attendance who are so characteristically forgetful of all things except scientific matters that they entirely fail to register. The number registered is only an indication of the size of the meeting. For example, eleven affiliated societies of a national scope have met with us and have swelled the gathering of scientific men in Pittsburgh during the past week to approximately 750 individuals. The meeting has,