

COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

At a Meeting of the Council of the British Association, held at the
Mason College, Birmingham, September 1, 1886, at 10 A.M.

Present,—

PROFESSOR A. W. WILLIAMSON, Treasurer, in the Chair.

A. T. ATCHISON, ESQ.

PROF. T. G. BONNEY.

SIR F. BRAMWELL.

W. CROOKES, ESQ.

DR. CROSKEY (*Local Sec.*).

PROF. W. BOYD DAWKINS.

SIR WILLIAM DAWSON.

CAPT. DOUGLAS GALTON.

DR. J. H. GLADSTONE.

J. D. GOODMAN, ESQ. (*Local Treas.*).

G. GRIFFITH, ESQ.

A. VERNON HARCOURT, ESQ.

PROF. H. M'LEOD.

J. B. MARTIN, ESQ.

THOS. MARTINEAU, ESQ. (Mayor
of Birmingham).

ADMIRAL SIR E. OMMANNEY.

W. PENGELLY, ESQ.

P. L. SCLATER, ESQ.

PROF. W. A. TILDEN.

REV. A. R. VARDY.

REV. DR. WATSON.

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.
2. The General Treasurer's Report was read and ordered to be presented to the General Committee this day:—Balance brought forward, £620. 11s. 5d.; subscriptions, £2,755; dividends on stock, £246. 10s.; interest on Exchequer Bills, £48. 7s. 4d.; sale of publications, £115. 12s. 5d.; rent from Mathematical Society, £12. 15s.; returned unexpended grant, £6. 8s. 2d.; total, £3,805. 4s. 4d. Expenditure:—Expenses of Aberdeen Meeting, £292. 13s. 5d.; salaries (one year), £531. 5s.; rent of office, £117; grants made at Aberdeen, £995. 0s. 6d.; balance at Bank of England (Western Branch), £1,719. 3s. 8d.; deposited in bank at Birmingham, £150. 1s. 9d.; total, £3,805. 4s. 4d.
3. The Council recommended the election of the new Members as set forth in their Report.
4. It was announced that an invitation had been received from Bath for 1888.
Letters from Sir Saul Samuel, Agent-General for New South Wales, were read, inviting the Association to visit Sydney in the year 1888.
A letter from Sir Graham Berry, Agent-General for Victoria, was read, expressing the hope that the Association could now fix a date for meeting at Melbourne.
It was resolved that an adjourned meeting of Council be held on Monday, September 6, to meet Sir Saul Samuel and Mr. Yardley, who should be invited to attend, and to hear from them further particulars respecting the invitations to visit Sydney and Melbourne.

5. Letters from the Marquis of Lansdowne and the Marquis of Lorne were read, expressing regret at their inability to take part in the meeting.

6. The Report of the Council for the year 1885-6 was considered and adopted in the following form for presentation to the General Committee :

Report of the Council for the year 1885-86, presented to the General Committee at Birmingham, September 1, 1886.

“The Council have received reports during the past year from the General Treasurer, and his account for the year will be laid before the General Committee this day.

“Since the Meeting at Aberdeen, the following have been elected Corresponding Members of the Association :—

Professor Putnam.	Dr. Max Schuster.
Rev. Dr. Renard.	M. Jules Vuylsteke.

“As Professor Huxley was unable to accept the office of a Vice-President for the present Meeting, the Council have nominated in his stead Professor Stokes, Pres. R.S.

“The Council have received a letter from Sir Charles Tupper, High Commissioner for the Dominion of Canada, enclosing important communications from the Government of that Dominion, in reference to the record and preservation from obliteration of such traces as still remain of the indigenous characteristics of the native races of America, which subject, the General Committee will recollect, was mentioned in the Report of the Council at the Aberdeen Meeting. Copies of this correspondence will be communicated to the Sections interested in the subject.

“Invitations have been received from Bath and from Sydney for the year 1888; and the invitation from Melbourne, given at Montreal, has been renewed.

“The following resolutions were referred by the General Committee to the Council for consideration and action, if desirable :—

“(a) ‘That the Council be requested to consider the desirability of admitting ladies as Officers of the Association, or as Members of the General or Sectional Committees.’

“The Council, after careful consideration of the question, are of opinion that the time has not yet come when it would be for the advantage of the Association to depart from the established custom.

“(b) ‘That the Council be requested to consider the advisability of rendering the special reports of the Association more accessible to the scientific public by placing them on sale in separate form.’

“(c) ‘That the printed reports on special subjects be offered for sale to the general public at the time of the Meeting, or as soon afterwards as possible.’

“There are several matters of detail requiring careful consideration in the subjects of these two resolutions, and the Council, owing to exceptional circumstances during the past year, have not been able to come to a decision regarding them. They recommend that the question should be referred to the next Council.

“(d) ‘That the Council be requested to so modify the Rules of the Association as to permit of a Sectional Committee being held at an earlier hour than eleven, and the Sectional Committee previously, due notice being given to the Section on the previous day.’

“The Council have considered this recommendation, and think it undesirable to alter the general rules, the resolution passed at Southport three years ago meeting the particular case of Saturday.

“(e) ‘That a memorial be presented to H.M. Government requesting them to enlarge the existing Agricultural Department of the Privy Council, with the view of concentrating all administrative functions relating to Agriculture in one fully equipped Board and Department of Agriculture.’

“The Council, after a full consideration of this difficult and intricate question, are not at present prepared to memorialise the Government on the subject of the enlargement of the Agricultural Department of the Privy Council.

“(f) ‘That the Council be requested to consider and take steps, if they think it desirable, to memorialise the Government to undertake the more systematic collection and annual publication of Statistics of Wages, and a periodical industrial census.’

“The Council, in view of the recent promise of the late President of the Board of Trade in Parliament as to the collection of Statistics of Wages, are of opinion that it is inexpedient at present to memorialise H.M. Government on the subject, but they empowered a Committee of their Members to communicate, if necessary, with the Department engaged in the collection of Statistics of Wages, with the view of eliciting information as to the method proposed to be employed, and to make such suggestions as appear to be expedient.

“(g) ‘That a memorial be presented to H.M. Government in favour of the establishment of a National School of Forestry.’

“A Committee was appointed to consider this subject, but has made no report to the Council.

“The General Committee will remember that the question of the feasibility of instituting a scheme for promoting an International Scientific Congress, described in the Report of the Council presented at Aberdeen, was in effect referred back to the Council to consider whether it would be possible to devise such a scheme. The question has been further considered during the past year, and the Council are of opinion that the difficulties and objections foreseen by several Members of the Association, have not been met in any of the communications which have been laid before them, and are, in their judgment, so great that they cannot at present recommend any further steps being taken in the matter.

“In accordance with the regulations the five retiring members of the Council will be:—

Mr. J. W. L. Glaisher.

Professor T. McK. Hughes.

Mr. J. F. La Trobe Bateman.

Dr. H. C. Sorby.

Dr. W. H. Perkin.

"The Council recommend the re-election of the other ordinary Members of Council, with the addition of the gentlemen whose names are distinguished by an asterisk in the following list:—

Abney, Captain W. de W., F.R.S.	Hawkshaw, J. Clarke, Esq., F.G.S.
Ball, Sir R. S., F.R.S.	Henrici, Professor O., F.R.S.
*Barlow, W. H., C.E., F.R.S.	*Judd, Professor J. W., F.R.S.
Blanford, W. T., Esq., F.R.S.	Martin, J. B., Esq., F.S.S.
Bramwell, Sir F. J., F.R.S.	M'Leod, Professor H., F.R.S.
Crookes, W., Esq., F.R.S.	Moseley, Professor H. N., F.R.S.
*Darwin, Professor G. H., F.R.S.	Ommanney, Admiral Sir E., C.B., F.R.S.
Dawkins, Professor W. Boyd, F.R.S.	Pengelly, W., Esq., F.R.S.
De La Rue, Dr. Warren, F.R.S.	*Roberts-Austen, Professor W. C., F.R.S.
Dewar, Professor J., F.R.S.	Temple, Sir R., Bart., G.C.S.I.
Flower, Professor W. H., F.R.S.	Thiselton-Dyer, W. T., Esq., C.M.G., F.R.S.
Gladstone, Dr. J. H., F.R.S.	*Thorpe, Professor T. E., F.R.S.
Godwin-Austen, Lieut.-Colonel H. H., F.R.S.	

7. The report of the local officers as to the number of Members and Associates elected by the Executive Committee was received.

8. The claims for admission to the General Committee made by the Members in the following list were considered, viz.:

Beddard, F. E.	Mitchell, John.
Bell, J. Carter.	Murray, Dr. John.
Bidwell, S.	Poynting, J. H.
Bovey, Prof. H. T.	Sclater, W. L.
Carbutt, E. H.	Seebohm, H.
Churchill, Lord A.	Smith, Dr. Protheroe.
Cunningham, Prof. D. J.	Smith, Prof. R. H.
Faraday, F. J.	Tidy, Dr. C. Meymott.
Hartog, M.	Wells, C. A.
Healey, G.	Young, Sydney.
McLaren, Lord.	

The claims made by

Beddard, F. E.	Murray, Dr. John
Bell, J. Carter	Poynting, J. H.
Bidwell, S.	Sclater, W. L.
Bovey, Prof. H. T.	Seebohm, H.
Carbutt, E. H.	Smith, Dr. Protheroe
Churchill, Lord A.	Smith, Prof. R. H.
Cunningham, Prof. D. J.	Tidy, Dr. C. Meymott
Hartog, M.	Wells, C. A.
McLaren, Lord	Young, Sydney

were allowed.

9. The Secretary reported that Col. Godwin-Austen was unable to accept the Vice-Presidency of Section C, and Mr. O'Halloran the Secretaryship of Section E.

At an Adjourned Meeting of the Council of the British Association, held at Mason College, Birmingham, September 6, 1886, at 1 P.M.

Present,—

SIR WILLIAM DAWSON, President, in the Chair.

A. T. ATCHISON, ESQ.

SIR R. S. BALL.

W. CROOKES, ESQ.

PROF. W. BOYD DAWKINS.

CAPT. DOUGLAS GALTON.

G. GRIFFITH, ESQ.

A. VERNON HARCOURT, ESQ.

PROF. H. M'LEOD.

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THOS. MARTINEAU, ESQ. (Mayor
of Birmingham).

ADMIRAL SIR E. OMMANNEY.

DR. W. H. PERKIN.

P. L. SCLATER, ESQ.

PROF. STOKES.

REV. A. R. VARDY.

1. The Report of the Corresponding Societies Committee was received.

2. Sir Saul Samuel, Agent-General for New South Wales, attended and gave further particulars of the invitation to visit that Colony. Mr. Yardley was unable to be present.

It was resolved :

“That the thanks of the Association be given to the Government of New South Wales for the invitation they have tendered, asking that representative members of the British Association should visit Sydney in the beginning of 1888, to be present at the celebration of the centenary of the Colony; and that the said invitation be favourably entertained.”

3. It was resolved :

“That the thanks of the British Association be given to the Government of Victoria for the invitation they have tendered, and that any further communication from the Agent-General for Victoria as to whether arrangements should be made for a visit of the Delegates to Melbourne after the visit to Sydney, or with reference to any future action with respect to visiting Melbourne, should be considered.”

The Council then adjourned.

ALEX. W. WILLIAMSON.

Confirmed—Nov. 5, 1886.

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