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THE public does not, however, spend all its time in studying colonial antiquities, and we would like to amend Dr. Hale's suggestion by proposing that modern points, as well as ancient ones, should receive proper marking in Boston, where street signs are, in the older and more tangled parts of the city, almost unknown; so that a person in search of a particular street at New North End, might often walk half the whole length of it without discovering any mark whatever to show him what street he is on. As Boston is now a large and important city, it is supposed to be anxious to secure trade and solution whatever individuality and ingenuity have not yet been stilled in him by custom, precedent and rule-of-thumb habits of work. Although the announcement is to be found in our advertising columns, we will say that the programme of the competition may be had by addressing Mr. Henry D. Dupee, Mechanics' Building, Huntington Avenue, Boston.

Dr. Edward Everett Hale, who has a lively sympathy for historical associations, urges the people of Boston to mark the most interesting sites in that city, while they will still be identifiable, to preserve some other suitable means, for the benefit of coming generations, as well as our own. For example, the inhabitants of the Colony built, in the seventeenth century, a barricade, or palisade, along the water front, to keep off landing-parties of pirates or other enemies, and a fragment of this barricade is still to be seen, on the Charlestown side of Charlestown Bridge. It would be ascertained, and marked; and, considering the extreme interest with which scholars study the recognizably original and the unique character of colonial Plymouth, it is reasonable to suppose that a systematic marking of the similar features of Boston, including, if we may be permitted a suggestion, the Boston School of Fine Arts, the home of the special training of travelling-scholars may be expected to develop in men of capacity. Already, the influence of the art of travelling-scholars is likely to furnish the theme for one of the most interesting chapters in the future history of American art.

The Roch Scholarship for 1898 has been awarded to Mr. C. L. C. Newhall, of Malden, Mass., a draughtsman in the office of Mr. Arthur H. Boardich, of Boston. Mr. Newhall is the fifteenth holder of the Scholarship. Although this is the oldest of the great American travelling-scholarships in architecture, and its list of holders is, in consequence, the longest, the other foundations are beginning to show a tolerable array of names, and it will not be many years before a review of the work of the various prize-winners, and their influence on the art in America, will be of great interest and value. Of course, the holder of one of the great scholarships, after his return to this country, must usually spend years in assisting others, before he has an opportunity to impress his own individuality on his work; but the number of those who are free to design as they choose now increases rapidly every year. So far, perhaps the most notable building carried out by one such man in Massachusetts is the Tremont Temple, in Boston, which was the work of two Roch scholars, Messrs. Blackall & Newton, then associated as partners; and we think that the programme of the competition may be had by addressing Mr. Henry D. Dupee, Mechanics' Building, Huntington Avenue, Boston.
IN another column will be found the text of the Act governing the reorganization of the Art Commission for the City of Boston, which we print in full because in the past we have more than once been called on to furnish the text of the old Act to correspondents who were laboring to establish art commissions in their several cities. In a general way the powers of the new Commission are not different from those which the former Commission has exercised with signal success, a success so great that there seemed at first sight no good reason for making any change. But time and experience had proved that the method of securing the service of proper men was too much at the mercy of mere chance, and that ex-officio functionaries making any change. But time and experience had proved that the members composing the Commission should be men whose individual opinions would command respect, and that the rulings should never be the result of the judgment of, perhaps, the one instructed member, the public being deluded into the belief that five good men had decided the point at issue.

The first prize in the competition for models for a sun-dial, instituted by Mr. Thomas H. Kelly, of New York, and carried on under the auspices of the National Sculpture Society, was awarded to Charles A. Lopez, of New York; the second prize to Mr. W. C. Maynard, of Brooklyn; a first mention to a design whose author is not known; a second mention to Mr. Hall Winters Morris, of New York; a third mention to Miss Janet Hall Scudder, of New York, and a fourth mention to Mr. J. M. Kimball, of Brooklyn. The competition was for a sundial, standing on a pedestal in open ground; and Mr. Kelly offered five hundred dollars as the first prize, and two hundred and fifty dollars as the second. Twenty-eight designs were submitted, among them being some likely always to be a properly influential member of the Commission, and the Presidents of the Trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts and of the Public Library were more likely to be than not, the President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology might at any time be one more versed in pedagogy or architecture than not, the President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology might at any time be one more versed in pedagogy or architecture than the President of the National Sculpture Society. The local clergy have made a collection, and the poor place, and unless the insufficient amount now available can be supplemented by outside subscriptions the tower must fall.

Some one, writing in the Deutsche Bauzeitung about shingles, says that in certain parts of Switzerland and the Tyrol they are very much used to protect brick buildings from dampness, the shingles being covered on the outside with what we should call heavy strap furring, about two inches thick, secured to the brickwork with bolts or hooks, and then with boarding, to which the shingles are nailed. We have seen brick walls in the Tyrol covered for protection from the weather with slate nailed to the brickwork, but the idea of furring and shingling them on the outside is new to us. All this is due to the Tyrolese by the local insurance men. Speaking of shingles in general, the Deutsche Bauzeitung's correspondent says that those ordinarily used in the Tyrol for covering walls are two inches wide and five inches long, with rounded ends. They can be had larger, but the large ones are not at all to be recommended. The rounding of the ends is done with a knife held at an angle, so as to give a conical, instead of a cylindrical, cut. Presumably, the shingles are laid so that the axis of the imaginary cone points toward the interior of the house, and the bevel in this case would form as much as sixty, and the Tyrolese was the precursor at times, merely an able politician. Under such a constitution there was no certainty that decisions worthy of respect could always be known to, and it was felt that the members composing the Commission should be men whose individual opinions would command respect, and that the rulings should never be the result of the judgment of, perhaps, the one instructed member, the public being deluded into the belief that five good men had decided the point at issue.

M. Morel-Lacordaire, who is a clever writer, as well as an expert in matters of furniture, sends to La Semaine des Constructeurs an account of the "Miscarriage of an Antiquarian," which contains not only a warning for the public, but a useful lesson for architects in regard to the systematic investigation of suspicious accounts. M. Morel-Lacordaire was once called in by a Parisian notary, one of whose clients had been presented by a furniture repairer with a bill to the amount of three hundred thousand francs. The bill was sufficiently detailed to suit the most exacting customer, covering more than three hundred pages, with thirty lines on each page, and M. Morel-Lacordaire, with the notary's introduction, set about examining it. His new client was a young lady, of high rank and title, but inexperienced in furniture matters; in consequence, protected to a certain extent by the French law, which permits expert revision of claims against such persons. The first step was to separate the items of charges for new furnishings. There were some slight indications of prices agreed upon beforehand for these articles, so that they could be checked off. Trimmings and materials for covering could also, by referring to the actual objects, be accounted for; but a balance remained of seventy thousand francs, charged for such items as putting up and taking down curtains, and beating carpets, rugs and cushions. The bill covered a period of ten years, so that the average charge per year for these items was seven thousand francs. In order to ascertain the time and reason for these charges, M. Morel-Lacordaire counted the carpets and curtains, and hired men to remove, brush and beat, fold them and put them in the store-room of the house, take them out, unfold, brush, and put them in again. All this work was charged at twenty francs a day, at a cost of twenty-four hundred francs instead of seven thousand. An unfortunate young lady had settled the bill almost in full, by payments on account, and it appeared that she had given the upholsterer twenty-five thousand francs more than he had any claim to.

The competition for the Legislative Palace of the City of Mexico has been decided by the award of the first prize, of fifteen thousand dollars, to Mr. Adano Boari, an Italian architect, for some years resident in Chicago and the second prize is said to have been awarded to another Chicago architect, but his name is not yet announced. The building is to cost five million dollars, and the competition seems to have been carried on with commendable fairness.
RECENT EXPERIMENTS ON TRAP SIPHONAGE.

THE plumbing regulations of the City of Cologne, Germany, required until recently "back-air pipes" at the fixture traps for the purpose of altering the branch wastes and preventing the loss of water-seal by siphonage. A committee, appointed to revise the rules, doubted the necessity or propriety of this rule. Referring to one of the leading principles of house-drainage, which requires the work to be carried out with as much simplicity as possible, members of the Committee pointed out the fact that "back-air pipes" tend to complicate the system and render it liable to leaks at the numerous additional pipe-joints required, a fact which is not surprising, when we learn that the rules in Cologne permitted the use of galvanized sheet-metal pipes for vent-pipes, with joints which were sometimes not even soldered. The Committee argued in favor of simplifying the plumbing because this would also reduce its cost. It is stated that a thorough examination of the places where the vent-pipes were attached to the traps disclosed the fact that the vents were in nearly all cases entirely closed and stopped up by grease, coffee-grounds or spider-webs.

While there were some who claimed that back-air pipes should be retained, but that the material should be of heavy lead or iron, others argued in favor of omitting trap-vent-pipes because siphonage of traps would not in any case take place.

In order to settle this important question authoritatively, the Municipal Building Department determined to have a series of experiments made, which were carried out jointly by Herr Maniewski, architect of this Department, and Herr Unna, a sanitary engineer of Cologne. These experiments, which are described in detail by Herr Unna in No. 4 and 5 of the Gessundheits Ingenieur for 1898, also give incidentally some very interesting information on the flow of water and air in house-pipes. A board fence, about 10 metres (33 feet) high and 8 metres (26 feet) wide, was erected, and provided with three platforms representing three stories of a building, and each 3 metres (9.9 feet) distant from the next (see Fig. 1).

The pipe system which served for the experiments was fastened to the board fence by means of pipe bands, and embraced a horizontal main sewer 5 inches in size, and two vertical pipe-lines which in different experiments were made of different diameter, viz. 2, 4, 5 inches. A gate-valve was placed immediately above the junction of the first vertical pipe with the sewer. The first vertical line, a waste-pipe of 2 inches diameter (changed to 2½ inches in some experiments) had three Y-branches as shown, and was extended full size above the top of the fence. In the lowest story this pipe had also an inclined waste-pipe, with three Y-branches and fixtures, located at distances of 1 metre (3.5 feet) from each other. The main sewer was continued, as shown, to the second line, which was also extended upward in full size and was made 3½, 4 and 5 inches in diameter successively. The unsanded portions G of the vertical and horizontal lines indicate glass pipe, the full size of these lines, which were inserted to make observations on the flow of water. The bowls and traps were likewise made of glass for the same purpose.

In order to take into consideration in the experiments all possible combinations of arrangement and dimensions occurring in actual practice, the following points were separately considered: —

1. The inside diameter of the horizontal sewer,
2. The inside diameter of the vertical pipe-lines,
3. The size of the connections to the bowls,
4. The depth of water-seal in the traps,
5. The size of strainers in the fixtures,
6. The distance of the fixtures from the vertical lines,
7. The inclination of the horizontal branches,
8. The influence due to enlargement, reduction and full closure of the upper ends of the vertical lines,
9. Modification of the results obtained by omission of the main trap,
10. The action and resistance of traps under fixtures connected with a vertical pipe-line, through which large quantities of water flow quickly and suddenly (corresponding to a leader pipe, or a bath waste-pipe),

As regards the observation of the flow of water and air by means of the sections of glass pipes inserted, it was seen that a solid column or piston of water was formed only in the case of inclined branch wastes, and when the top of the vertical lines was fully closed. In previous experiments, made by Herr Unna with glass models of small bore, the water poured through the bowls invariably formed into a piston and emptied the traps by siphonage. With an open soil-pipe, water poured into a fixture dashed against the opposite side of the vertical pipe, and at once resolved itself into single threads which assumed a spiral motion along the walls of the soil-pipe (see Fig. 2). In proportion as the amount of water poured into the fixtures was increased the number of threads of water increased from the circumference toward the centre of the pipe, until the entire pipe was filled with threads of water. This breaking-up of a solid body of water serves also to explain the large volumes of air which were drawn in by the water, as each thread carries some air along with it. In order to gain some knowledge as to the amount of air sucked in, an anemometer was placed at the mouth of the vertical pipe, this instrument being made of the same diameter as the pipe and fitted into same tightly. It was found that one bucket of water poured or sucked in from 60-90 litres (2.1 cubic feet) of air.

1 This shows conclusively the fallacy of making trap tests by means of small glass models.

W. F. U.
traps of glass, 1 1/2 and 2 inches diameter, with 2 and 4 inch seal respectively, were used in the experiments. These were carried on at an average temperature of the air of 20° C. (68° Fahr.), and all experiments agreed in showing that 10 mm. (1/4 inches) of water evaporated per week. A trap with a 4-inch seal would accordingly be rendered useless by evaporation in ten weeks. The evaporation was much retarded if a flat plate of thin glass, about 1/16 inch thick and in oil was placed over the strainer in the fixture, and amounted to 6 mm. (1/4 inch) per week. In other words, a trap with a 4-inch seal would take sixteen weeks to evaporate. Nearly the same result was obtained by slowly pouring a wine-glass of oil into the trap. The usual length of summer vacation, during which houses remain empty, Herr Unna states, does not, therefore, endanger the seal of traps. It is advisable, however, in houses to be used during the winter, to remove the water from the traps and to substitute porcelain for same.

In making the experiments on trap siphonage, the vertical waste-line connected with the trap was cut off, and afterwards with a 1 1/4-inch pipe. The diameter of the trap and branch connections was made 1 1/4 inches, 2 inches and 2 1/4 inches. The 1 1/4-inch traps experimented on had 40, 80, 100 and 150 mm. trap-seal; the 2 and 2 1/4 inch traps had a 60, 80, 100 and 150 mm. seal. The water was poured through the trap at its upper end vertically and keeping the pipe end open the same results were obtained as in the case of the vertical main line.

Another question which it was important to determine was, how the self-cleaning properties of traps were affected by an increase of the depth of the seal, which renders traps less liable to siphonage. It was argued that it would be undesirable to use in practice traps

3. The influence which a reduction, an enlargement or the entire closing-up of the upper opening of the pipe-line has been studied by means of reduction and increase fittings and tight fitting plugs.

The water was poured through each one of the fixtures, the three elbows successively, and the water on the trap-seals of the others was observed. Experiments were also made with the two upper or the two lower fixtures, and also with all three fixtures at one time. The volume of water discharged was one pail of water containing 15 litres, or 32 gallons, and afterwards 2, 3 or more pails. All experiments agreed in showing that there was no appreciable difference when the top of the vertical pipe-line was enlarged, and that a reduction always had an unfavorable effect. The rule requiring the full-size pipe extension is, therefore, practically confirmed by these tests, and it is also shown that an enlargement of the waste-pipe is not always desirable, as it may be counteract in winter time any possible reduction of the sectional area of the pipe-mouth by hoar-frost or icicles.

Herr Unna summarizes the results of experiments as follows:—

"Back-air" pipes for traps may be dispensed with under the following conditions:—

1. The cross-sectional area of the waste or soil pipe must be larger than that of the trap. For a 1 1/4-inch (40 mm.) trap the waste-pipe should be 2 inches (51 mm.), for a 2 inch trap it should be at least 2 1/2 inches (60 mm.).

2. The combined area of the openings in the strainer of the fixture must not be larger than 50% of the cross-sectional area of the trap.

3. Each vertical line of soil or waste pipe must be carried the full size and with as few offsets as possible above the roof; it is better to enlarge the waste-pipes, from a point 20 inches (50 cm.) below the roof, by 2 inches; the minimum size of roof vent-pipes to be 4 inches (100 mm.); no ventilating cap or return bend to be put on the top of the pipe; a wire basket may be used, the openings of which must be at least equal to the sectional area of the pipe (Fig. 6).

The next experiments were made with a horizontal or graded waste-pipe, of 33 mm. diameter (1 1/4 inches), which connected with the vertical waste-pipe at fixtures connected by it by means of Y-branches (see Fig. 1). The fixture traps were made interchange-
(c) Where fixtures are connected with inside rain-water leader pipes, the waste-pipe should have at least 3 inches of water-seal, and also require venting.

(d) Where fixtures are located more than 3.3 feet (1 metre) from the vertical soil or waste-pipe, the waste-pipe should have at least 3.3 feet (1 metre) of water-seal, and require back-air ventilation to the roof.

(e) Where several fixtures are connected by an inclined lateral waste with the vertical line. In this case it is only necessary to extend the lateral waste pipe at its upper end above the roof.

If used, vertical back-air lines should not be less than 2 inches in diameter, and only heavy lead or galvanized pipe should be used for the branches, while the main lines may be cast-iron or galvanized wrought-iron. Joints in iron vent-pipes should be lead-crowned or else screw-joints, and lead-vent-pipes should have soldered joints. Vent-pipes must join the vertical line at a height above the overflow point of the fixtures, and be either extended separately through the roof, or connected with the soil or waste line above the highest fixture.

At the conclusion of his report, Herr Unna gives the results of some experiments made to determine the necessary size of waste-pipes for various rates of flow of water through supply-pipes and fixtures. The water pressure used was about 50 pounds, and the results obtained were as follows: —

1. A 1-inch compress-connection-supplies more water than a 3-inch waste-pipe, unobstructed by a strainer, is able to remove.

2. A 2-inch compression-connection furnishes water at the rate of 26.4 United States gallons per second, or 12.2 x 60 = 732 gallons per minute, to remove which quantity a full 2-inch waste-pipe without strainer is required.

3. A 3-inch compression-connection furnishes 15.6 gallons per minute, which stream is taken care of by a 2-inch waste-pipe covered by a strainer with 50 pounds of water pressure.

4. A 4-inch compression-connection furnishes 5.78 gallons per minute, and a 1 1/2-inch waste-pipe (more correctly 40 mm.) with 40 per cent effective area of strainer will remove the water without danger of the fixture overflowing.

Herr Unna therefore recommends for the water pressure existing in Cologne, the use of 2-inch waste-pipes for fixtures, of 2-inch vent-pipes, and of 3-inch faucets for fixtures with 1 1/2-inch waste-pipe.
Buddha spent many years preaching and teaching in the city of Sravasti, and a large number of his sayings and parables purport to have been delivered either in the city or in the neighborhood. Of this famous city was long sought in vain; Mr. Smith now states with confidence that it is in the jungles of Nepal Terai, about eleven miles from the station of Nawalpur, on the Bengal and North eastern Railway. Its remains, like those of Kapilavatthu, are buried in jungle; but they succeed in finding a hollow board, and are found precisely where the Chinese pilgrims of the early centuries of the Christian era stated that Sravasti was. A full account of Mr. Smith's visit to the palace has been sent to the Royal Asiatic Society. Kusaṇāgāru, where the aged Gautama died, has not yet been found; but Mr. Smith now states with confidence that it is in the jungles of Nepal Terai, about eleven miles north of Simranu, north of the Chhampanur district of Nepal, and thinks it probable that a place called Dwedurpa, thirteen miles north of Simranu and fifty-four miles south of Kathmandu, will turn out to be Kusaṇāgāru. As for the great Asoka, who reigned over India in the first half of the third century B.C., and whose inscriptions on rocks and pillars are found scattered over India and on the coasts of the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal, his capital was Pataliputra, the modern Patna and Patna. His capital was not very far from the massive ruins of Simranu, north of Sravasti, which, as we are told, it is the main object of the book to trace; and, indeed, according to our experience, students in art schools, so long as their lectures give them some pretty pictures and other things to look at, do not suffer much mental anguish if the "essential unity" of these objects is not perfectly clear to them; and we imagine that the readers of Mr. Crane's book will be willing to take his word for it that there is such unity, without troubling themselves to trace the "organic" connection between "Protozene" and "Punch," or "Boot" and "Rossetti," notwithstanding their juxtaposition in the table of contents.

Speaking of unity, however, example is so much better than precept that it is unfortunate that some sort of "organic connection," whatever that may be, should not have been attempted among the illustrations. The book is liberally furnished with fine illustrations with which the book is liberally furnished. 'The author explains that, although he advocates the use of line drawings only,-"the sense of style and harmony in combining text and illustration," and mentions with extreme disapproval the "heavy-toned and realistically treated wash drawings used with a thin and light combination of line and wash, which occupy the pages of the book; or, in many instances, only partly occupy them, leaving a blank space of extreme awkward effect.

Mr. Crane, in a dissertation on book-making, in Chapter IV, speaks learnedly, not to say superbly, about the decline in "the sense of style and harmony in combining text and illustration," and mentions with extreme disapproval the "heavy-toned and realistically treated wash drawings used with a thin and light combination of line and wash, which occupy the pages of the book; or, in many instances, only partly occupy them, leaving a blank space of extreme awkward effect.


Mr. Smith has said that the book is a discursive, and a random extract from the foreword of his book would not have been found; but Mr. Smith now states with confidence that it is in the jungles of Nepal Terai, about eleven miles north of Simranu, north of Sravasti, which, as we are told, it is the main object of the book to trace; and, indeed, according to our experience, students in art schools, so long as their lectures give them some pretty pictures and other things to look at, do not suffer much mental anguish if the "essential unity" of these objects is not perfectly clear to them; and we imagine that the readers of Mr. Crane's book will be willing to take his word for it that there is such unity, without troubling themselves to trace the "organic" connection between "Protozene" and "Punch," or "Boot" and "Rossetti," notwithstanding their juxtaposition in the table of contents.

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the pointed arch, which shows it springing from an impost, and furnished with a keystone; but even the "constructive and historical arches" may be excused for wondering a little as he reads of the "Greek temple of ancient Egypt, as Karne, Thebes and Philae;" or that the Doric frieze is enriched "by little dentals" below the triglyphs, while the column, in this order, is "definitely enriched with a series of lines," and is "contorted, or slightly swelled in the middle, to avoid the visual effect of running out of the perpendicular." This remarkable statement is accompanied by a hand-drawn diagram of the group of riders in the Parthenon frieze, "enriched" with snaky lines around the feet and heads of the horses, which shows, as we are told, the "wave movement and spiral curves in the frieze," and illustrates that the sculptor of the Parthenon were "constructed on a basis of ornamental lines," and possessed throughout "a certain rhythm and recurrence of mass and line and form;" and we are subsequently informed that "what should be learned from the Parthenon is that of the "value of recurring and reëchoing lines." We will not venture to dispute what the eye of genius, especially an eye sensitive to the visual effect of running out of the perpendicular in shafts destined for estate, may have discerned in the Parthenon sculptures, but it is hard to see the usual notion of architects that the Parthenon sculptures present in the world of artistic variety, and of the avoidance of the "rhythm and recurrence" characteristic of inferior work, so radically overthrown.

After these thoughts upon Greek architecture, which were certainly derived from his own consciousness, it is a little surprising, when Gothic architecture comes to be considered, to find that Mr. Crane, instead of treating us to a new and superior explanation of the origin of the pointed arch, brings up the ridiculous old theory of its derivation from the interlacing arcade at Canterbury, giving a cut of this "Transitional arcade," as he calls it, and informing his readers that "we have here the actual birth of the pointed arch." In view of this display of familiarity with Gothic architecture, it is less startling to find an illustrated list of "Types of Gothic Arches," in which there is no indication of either the three-centred or four-centred arch, their place being taken by an impossible and unheard-of form, labelled the "Ogee." We try to be mindful of the proverb about the cobbler and his last, and we will therefore refrain from further discussion of this "Ogee," as it is proper to receive the testimony of the employer that part of the work was done by the workman himself.

Our attention is directed to the reproduction of a page from "Notebook of Style," the various sections of which give an idea of the importance and usefulness of certain problems in architecture, and which also illustrate the necessity of a systematic study of the subject. The examples given are of particular interest to those who are engaged in the study of architecture, and the illustrations are well chosen to aid in the explanation of the text. The book is well printed and bound, and is a valuable addition to the library of every architect and student of architecture.

The annual meeting of the National Academy of Design was held last week. The principal business transacted was the election of officers for the ensuing year, and this resulted as follows: President, John L. Farge, Honorary President; Frederick C. Warne; First Vice-President, George W. Maynard, Second Vice-President; D. Maclay Armstrong, Treasurer; Herman Schilder, Corresponding Secretary; J. William F. Ford, Recording Secretary; J. W. S. Smith, Secretary.

The medals for the competitions held during the past year were awarded as follows: Gold Medal, Nicola D'Ascenzo; Silver Medal, Horace H. Burrell; Honorable Mention, Charles E. Klauder. The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Edgar V. Seeler; Vice-President, Aline B. Long; Secretary, Herbert C. Wise; Treasurer, Horace H. Burrell; Executive Committee, David K. Boyd, Walter Cope and James F. Jamieson; House Committee, Nicola D'Ascenzo, George B. Page and Frederick M. Mason. Gro. B. Page, Acting Secretary.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF MURAL PAINTERS.

The annual meeting of the National Society of mural painters was held on May 11th, at which there were present forty-eight members. The reports of the various committees were heard, and the Treasurer's report showed the Club to be on a secure financial footing.

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SOCIETY OF BEAUX-ARTS ARCHITECTS.

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The annual meeting of the National Society of mural painters was held last week. The principal business transacted was the election of officers for the ensuing year, and this resulted as follows: President, John L. Farge, Honorary President; Frederick C. Warne; First Vice-President, George W. Maynard, Second Vice-President; D. Maclay Armstrong, Treasurer; Herman Schilder, Corresponding Secretary; J. William F. Ford, Recording Secretary; J. W. S. Smith, Secretary.

SOCIETY OF BEAUX-ARTS ARCHITECTS.

At the annual meeting of the National Academy of Design was held last week. The principal business transacted was the election of officers for the ensuing year, and this resulted as follows: President, John L. Farge, Honorary President; Frederick C. Warne; First Vice-President, George W. Maynard, Second Vice-President; D. Maclay Armstrong, Treasurer; Herman Schilder, Corresponding Secretary; J. William F. Ford, Recording Secretary; J. W. S. Smith, Secretary.

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To stop WASTE of NATURAL GAS. — One of the most interesting legal decisions that have lately been made in the United States is that arrived at in a suit brought by the Supreme Court of Indiana, in which it was held that the State has no right to prevent the drilling of gas wells on private lands. The case was brought by the attorney-general of Indiana to punish those who were continuing to drill gas wells, on the ground that a man had a right to do what he chose with his own. The Supreme Court of Indiana, in granting this decision and declared such waste illegal on the ground of the general public good. The court's decision is very popular, as by stopping the waste of natural gas it is believed that the supply will be prolonged indefinitely and the industrial interests of the State will be served a most excellent turn. Certainly no one who is familiar, through personal observation, with what has for a long time been going on in some of the natural-gas districts of the United States can have any conception of the reckless waste of the gas that has been and is probably still being practiced. Not only have grossly inefficient kinds of burners been used, but in many places there have been no burners at all, and the gas has been burned simply from open ends of pipes, with no attempt at any proper combustion. Gas jets and fires, moreover, have been left burning at all times, day and night, simply to save matches and to avoid the trouble of relighting. Early exhaustion of the gas-wells was to be expected under such conditions. Many of them have, in fact, given signs of failure, and the action that was taken in Indiana seems to have come almost in the nick of time. — Cassier's Magazine.

M. GUSTAVE MOREAU.— The Académie des Beaux Arts has experienced a fresh loss by the death of M. Gustave Moreau, professor at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, and the age of seventy-three. M. Moreau was educated in the atelier of Picot, at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, at the age of seventy-two. The son of a Government architect, M. Moreau was educated in the atelier of Picot. He made his first appearance at the Salons in 1852, with a "Pieta" which attracted the attention of the public. The following year he was elected an Academician. His pictures have always been large, and the subject taken from the Song of Solomon, which was purchased by the State and presented to the Louvre. He obtained a great success, or at least excited great curiosity, in 1864, by his picture of "The Buddha and the Sphinx." His next picture was a novel in its kind and treatment. From this date he adopted symbolic and legendary subjects as his special province: "Le Jeune Homme et le Mort" (1865); "Déméter droite par les Charons" (1866); "Herakles and the Hydra" (1867); "Galates" and " Helen" (1868). After that date he ceased to exhibit, and worked unreasonably. But, as by stopping the waste of natural gas it is believed that the supply will be prolonged indefinitely and the industrial interests of the State will be served a most excellent turn. Certainly no one who is familiar, through personal observation, with what has for a long time been going on in some of the natural-gas districts of the United States can have any conception of the reckless waste of the gas that has been and is probably still being practiced. Not only have grossly inefficient kinds of burners been used, but in many places there have been no burners at all, and the gas has been burned simply from open ends of pipes, with no attempt at any proper combustion. Gas jets and fires, moreover, have been left burning at all times, day and night, simply to save matches and to avoid the trouble of relighting. Early exhaustion of the gas-wells was to be expected under such conditions. Many of them have, in fact, given signs of failure, and the action that was taken in Indiana seems to have come almost in the nick of time. — Cassier's Magazine.

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J. FOSTER WARNER, ARCHITECT.