

accommodations and hospitality which the Society had enjoyed, and the meeting was adjourned.

THOMAS S. FISKE.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, *September 10, 1895.*

## THE MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.

THE forty-fourth annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was held at Springfield, Mass., August 29–September 4, President E. W. Morley, of Cleveland, Ohio, presiding. The attendance was not large, only 367 members being registered. This is 110 less than the number attending the Brooklyn meeting last year. There were 113 new members and 58 fellows elected this year.

Excursions were given to Forest Park, Springfield; to Amherst, Northampton, and Mount Holyoke College, and to Holyoke.

The officers of Section A were as follows: Edgar Frisby, Washington, D. C., Vice-President; Asaph Hall, Jr., Ann Arbor, Mich., Secretary; C. A. Waldo, Greencastle, Ind., Councilor; J. E. Kershner, Lancaster City, Pa.; C. A. Doolittle, Philadelphia, Pa.; L. L. Conant, Worcester, Mass.; C. H. Rockwell, Tarrytown, N. Y., together with the Vice-President and Secretary, sectional committee; J. R. Eastman, Washington, D. C.; S. C. Chandler, Cambridge, Mass.; J. M. Van Vleck, Middletown, Conn., with the Vice-President and Secretary, committee to nominate officers of the section. A. N. Skinner, D. C., Press Secretary.

The work of the Section was devoted almost wholly to astronomy, only two papers in pure mathematics being presented. The tendency of the Section to devote itself to the former class of work was commented on and deplored, and it was hoped that this tendency might be arrested before it had gone too far, and the balance between mathematical and astronomical work restored at the next meeting. This feeling manifested itself to a certain extent in the choice of officers, for the ensuing year, mentioned below.

The papers presented to Section A were as follows:

1. *Development of some useful quaternion expressions, with applications to geometry of three and four dimensions.* By JAMES BYRNIE SHAW, Jacksonville, Ill.
2. *The constant of aberration.* By C. L. DOOLITTLE, Philadelphia, Pa.
3. *On the constant of nutation.* By S. C. CHANDLER, Cambridge, Mass.