THE APRIL MEETING OF THE CHICAGO SECTION.

THE first formal gathering of members of the AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY outside the places appointed for regular meetings took place at the University of Chicago in December, 1896. At this conference steps were taken to organize a section of the Society, which should have no independent interests but which should hold frequent meetings for the presentation of mathematical papers and the discussion of mathematical topics. Accordingly, the by-laws of the Society having been enlarged so as to admit of the formation of sections at convenient points, the Chicago Section was duly organized at a second conference held in April, 1897. Since then meetings have been held twice a year at regular intervals, and much benefit from a scientific point of view has accrued to those who have been so situated as to be able to attend.

The fifth regular meeting of the Section was held at Northwestern University, Evanston, on Saturday, April 1, 1899. The total attendance was twenty-four including the following members of the Society :

Professor Oskar Bolza, Professor E. W. Davis, Professor L. W. Dowling, Dr. Harris Hancock, Professor A. S. Hathaway, Professor Thomas F. Holgate, Mr. H. G. Keppel, Dr. Kurt Laves, Professor H. Maschke, Professor Malcolm McNeill, Professor E. H. Moore, Professor J. B. Shaw, Dr. H. F. Stecker, Professor H. S. White, Professor C. B. Williams, Professor J. W. A. Young.

A morning and an afternoon session were held, opening at 10:30 and 2:30 o'clock respectively. The First Vice-President of the Society, Professor E. H. Moore, occupied the chair. During the interval between the sessions the members took lunch together, the hour thus spent in social intercourse adding much to the interest of the meeting.

The following papers were read :

(1) Dr. HARRIS HANCOCK : "Primary functions."

(2) Professor E. W. DAVIS : "The group of the trigonometric functions."

(3) Professor H. MASCHKE : "On the continuation of a power series."

(4) Dr. KURT LAVES : "Lagrange's differential equations for a solid of variable form derived from Hamilton's principle."

(5) Professor E. H. MOORE : "The decomposition of