PHILOSOPHICAL

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OF THE

ROYAL SOCIETY

OF

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FOR THE YEAR MDCCCLXIX.

VOL. 159.

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MDCCCLXIX.
The Committee appointed by the Royal Society to direct the publication of the Philosophical Transactions, take this opportunity to acquaint the Public, that it fully appears, as well from the Council-books and Journals of the Society, as from repeated declarations which have been made in several former Transactions, that the printing of them was always, from time to time, the single act of the respective Secretaries till the Forty-seventh Volume; the Society, as a Body, never interesting themselves any further in their publication, than by occasionally recommending the revival of them to some of their Secretaries, when, from the particular circumstances of their affairs, the Transactions had happened for any length of time to be intermitted. And this seems principally to have been done with a view to satisfy the Public, that their usual meetings were then continued, for the improvement of knowledge, and benefit of mankind, the great ends of their first institution by the Royal Charters, and which they have ever since steadily pursued.

But the Society being of late years greatly enlarged, and their communications more numerous, it was thought advisable that a Committee of their members should be appointed, to reconsider the papers read before them, and select out of them such as they should judge most proper for publication in the future Transactions; which was accordingly done upon the 26th of March 1752. And the grounds of their choice are, and will continue to be, the importance and singularity of the subjects, or the advantageous manner of treating them; without pretending to answer for the certainty of the facts, or propriety of the reasonings, contained in the several papers so published, which must still rest on the credit or judgement of their respective authors.

It is likewise necessary on this occasion to remark, that it is an established rule of the Society, to which they will always adhere, never to give their opinion, as a Body, upon any subject, either of Nature or Art, that comes before them. And therefore the
thanks, which are frequently proposed from the Chair, to be given to the authors of such papers as are read at their accustomed meetings, or to the persons through whose hands they received them, are to be considered in no other light than as a matter of civility, in return for the respect shown to the Society by those communications. The like also is to be said with regard to the several projects, inventions, and curiosities of various kinds, which are often exhibited to the Society; the authors whereof, or those who exhibit them, frequently take the liberty to report and even to certify in the public newspapers, that they have met with the highest applause and approbation. And therefore it is hoped that no regard will hereafter be paid to such reports and public notices; which in some instances have been too lightly credited, to the dishonour of the Society.
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| Frankfurt            | Senckenbergische naturforschende Gesellschaft. |
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- Leipzig ........... Dr. C. Brühns.
- Lisbon ............ Senhor da Silveira.
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Plate LXIV.—Dr. A. Dupré and F. J. M. Page on the Specific Heat and other Physical Characters of Mixtures of Alcohol and Water.

Plate LXV.—Mr. Frederick Guthrie on the Thermal Resistance of Liquids.


Plates LXVII. to LXXI.—Dr. Wyville Thomson on Holtenia.

Plates LXXII. to LXXX.—Dr. W. B. Carpenter and Mr. H. B. Brady on two gigantic types of Arenaceous Foraminifera.

Plates LXXXI. to LXXXVII.—Mr. W. K. Parker on the Structure and Development of the Skull of the Common Fowl (*Gallus domesticus*).
ADJUDICATION OF THE MEDALS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 1869 BY
THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL.

The Copley Medal to M. Henri Victor Regnault, For. Mem. R.S., for the second
volume of his "Relation des expériences pour déterminer les lois et les données phy-
siques nécessaires au Calcul des Machines à feu;" including his elaborate investigations
on the Specific Heat of Gases and Vapours, and various papers on the Elastic Force of
Vapours.

A Royal Medal to Sir Thomas Maclear, F.R.S., for his Measurement of an Arc of
the Meridian at the Cape of Good Hope.

A Royal Medal to Dr. Augustus Matthiessen, F.R.S., for his researches on the
electrical and other physical properties of Metals and their Alloys.

The Bakerian Lecture was delivered by Dr. Thomas Andrews, F.R.S.; it was
entitled "The Continuity of the Gaseous and Liquid States of Matter."

The Croonian Lecture was not delivered.