Mr. Joseph Henry read an eulogy
ON THE LIFE AND SCIENTIFIC LABORS OF THE LATE ALEXANDER DALLAS BACHE, who was one of the founders of the scientific club from which this society took its origin.

(This Eulogy is published in full in the Report of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution for 1870, Appendix, pp. 90-106.)

17th Meeting.

DECEMBER 16, 1871.

The President in the Chair.

Mr. J. E. Hillard read a paper
ON THE WESTWARD MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES.


Mr. C. S. Peirce read a paper
ON THE APPEARANCE OF ENcke's COMET AS SEEN AT HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY.

(The substance of this communication will be published in the Annals of the Harvard College Observatory.)

Mr. E. B. Elliott made a communication
ON THE LOCUS OF THE POINT OF EQUAL ILLUMINATION BY TWO UNEQUAL LIGHTS TREATED BY THE QUATERNION ANALYSIS.

Mr. Cleveland Abbe read a letter from Mr. S. A. King, F.R.S., of Boston,
ON THE AERIAL CURRENTS OBSERVED IN FIFTY BALLOON ASCENSIONS.

The thanks of the Society were returned to Mr. King for his communication.