

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

AMERICAN ACADEMY

OF

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FROM MAY, 1868, TO MAY, 1873.

SELECTED FROM THE RECORDS.

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culate-dotted macrospores. It grows in damp springy soil, not in water, in the Willamette Valley, maturing in August and September.

694. SELAGINELLA RUPESTRIS Spring, var. TROPICA Spring. *S. struthioloides* Presl.

695. EQUISETUM LEVIGATUM A. Braun; Gray, Man. p. 655.

696. EQUISETUM LIMOSUM L.

697. MARSILIA VESTITA Hook. & Grev. Ic. Fil. t. 159.

698. AZOLLA CAROLINIANA Willd. *A. microphylla* Kaulf.

699 - 701. NITELLE species, not determined.

The *Musci*, *Hepaticæ*, and *Lichenes* are under examination, and will be separately published.

Six hundred and forty-second Meeting.

March 12, 1872. — MONTHLY MEETING.

The CORRESPONDING SECRETARY in the Chair.

Mr. C. S. Pierce made a communication on the photometric measurement of the stars, and exhibited an instrument for this purpose devised by Zöllner.

Mr. Lewis H. Morgan presented the following paper on Australian Kinship; with Appendices, by Rev. Lorimer Fison.

There are five classes of facts, preserved in the institutions of savage and barbarous nations, which are now attracting increasing attention. In connection with inventions and discoveries, they have been the instrumentalities by means of which mankind traversed the successive stages of savagery, of barbarism, and of civilization. When these facts are fully ascertained and compared, and the logical deductions are gathered into definite propositions, the most instructive portion of the ancient experience of mankind will be recovered and utilized.

It seems probable that the advancement of man through the successive stages of savagery and of barbarism was greater in degree than it has been since in the stages of civilization. When the savage had raised himself to a barbarian, and the latter had risen to the pastoral and agricultural conditions, this improved man, although still a barbarian, was further removed from the primitive savage than the philosopher of the present age is above this same barbarian. Be this as it may, the experiences of these several conditions are successive links of a common chain, each of which is necessary to the interpretation of

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