



[4/19/1891]

45  
Voted 6 That to secure economical & harmonious  
action in whatever relates to the buildings, grounds,  
furniture, & the daily (mechanical) routine of the Inst.:  
it is expedient to appoint a Superintendent or  
Proctor, who shall have care of the Buildings  
& their appurtenances, have immediate controul  
over the Janitor & other Subordinates connected  
therewith & shall ~~stand~~ <sup>superintend</sup> ~~over~~ <sup>to</sup> all repairs &  
alterations as well as all purchases of fuel  
& other supplies subject <sup>always</sup> in questions of  
expenditure, to the advice & controul of  
the Treasurer.

*[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]*

The Matter, of the Action of the Academy on the Watson request was referred to the ~~the~~ Council.

### Invitations

Prof. Newcomb invited the Members of the Academy to view his apparatus for measuring the velocity of light ~~was~~ in operation at Fort Meyer.

A letter was received from Admiral & Mrs John Rodgers inviting the members of the Academy & their families to a reception at the Naval Observatory on Wednesday evening the 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. at eight o'clock.

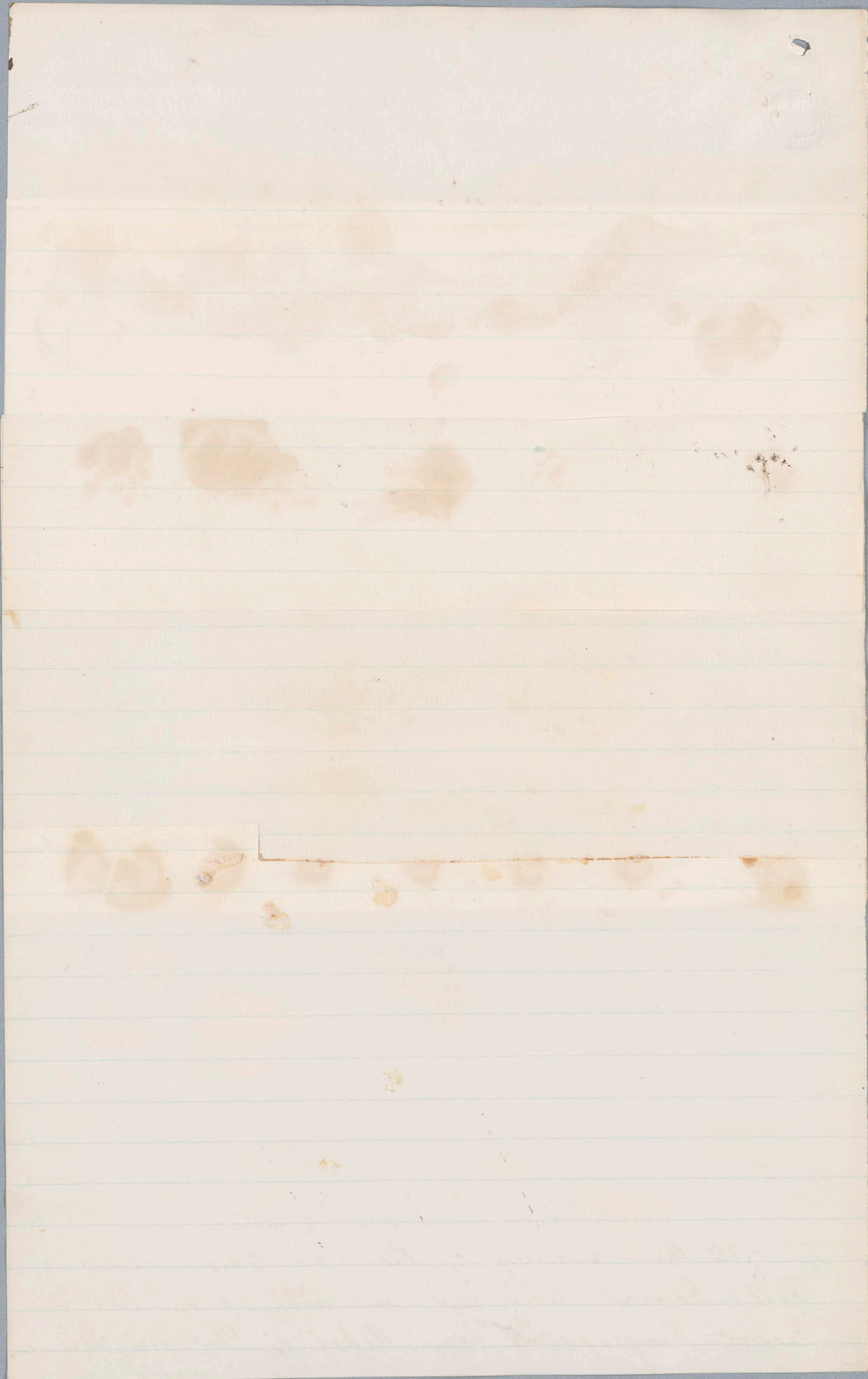
Also an invitation from Pres<sup>t</sup> & Mrs Rogers to attend a reception at Normley's Hotel on Thursday evening immediately after the reception at the White House.

An Announcement was made that there would be a meeting of the Anthropological Society at the Columbian College on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> to which the members of the Academy were invited.

A Communication ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> received from the Secy of the Cosmos Club of Washington inviting the members of the Academy to make use of the Club House during their stay & from the Hon: Mr Corcoran to visit the Corcoran Gallery of Art & the Washington Monument.

### Scientific ~~Session~~ Proceedings.

At the opening (of the Scientific Session) <sup>April 19<sup>th</sup></sup> Pres<sup>t</sup> Rogers delivered an address on "The Recent Progress <sup>in</sup> of some Dept: of Physical Science.



which was followed by the reading of Scientific Papers.

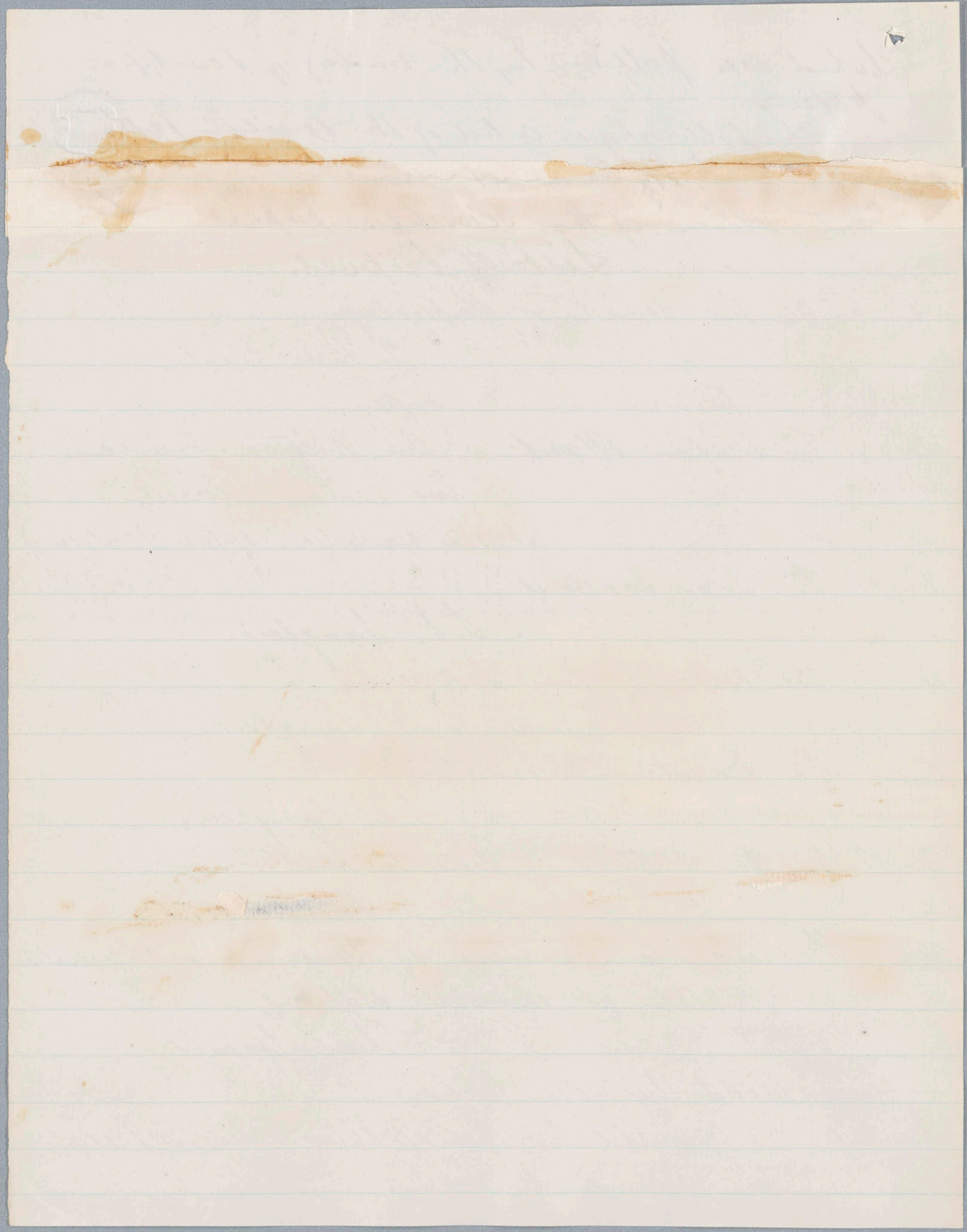
The following is a list of the Scientific papers presented to the Academy during the several days of its Session, beginning April 19<sup>th</sup>.

### List of Papers.

1. On the domain of Physiology  
J. Terry Hunt  
Remarks by Mr Cope.
2. The Compass Plant of the Western Prairies.  
by Gen<sup>l</sup> E. Alford  
(at the invitation of the Academy).
3. The Solar Constant  
S. P. Langley.
4. The color of the Sun.  
S. P. Langley.
5. On Mountain Observations  
S. P. Langley.
6. On the relations of soils to health.  
R. Pumpelly
7. Reduction to Sea level of Barometric Observations  
made at elevated Stations.  
Elias Loomis

Read by Mr White.

Remarks by Messrs White, Peters & Meigs.



[4/19/1887]

(25)

8. — On Electric Light Photometry.  
George F. Barker.  
Remarks by the President.
9. — On the Condenser Method of measuring  
high tension currents.  
George F. Barker.  
Remarks by Mr. Abbot.
10. — On the relations between strains & impacts &  
the structures of the feet of the Mammalia.  
E. D. Cope.  
Remarks by Mr. Morse.
11. — On the Progress of Pendulum work.  
C. S. Peirce.
12. — On the Carbon lamps ~~of~~ <sup>fibre</sup> in the thermo balance  
George F. Barker.  
Remarks by Mr. Langley.
13. — Upon the production of sound by radiant energy.  
by Mr. A. Graham Bell.  
(at the invitation of the Academy)  
Remarks by the President.
14. — On the later Tertiary of the Gulf of Mexico.  
E. W. Hilgard  
Read by Mr. Pumpelly.





15. On the Utilization of the Sun's rays in heating  
& ventilating

Edward S. Morse

Remarks by Messrs Hilgard, Coffin & the Pres<sup>t</sup>

16. Recent researches in the vicinity of Behring's  
Strait: Comprising  
I. An account of the Land Ice of <sup>Kotzebue</sup> ~~Kotzebue~~  
Sound & the Arctic Coast

W. H. Dall

(at the invitation of the Academy)

Remarks by Messrs Pumpelly, Morse, Guyot,  
and The President.

17. II. Additions to our knowledge of the currents  
& temperature of the Ocean in the  
vicinity of Behring's Strait

W. H. Dall

(at the invitation of the Academy)

Remarks by Messrs J. E. Hilgard & Guyot.

18. Results just obtained with regard to the  
molecular weight of Hydro-fluoric acid.

J. W. Mallet.

(at the invitation of the Academy)

Remarks by Mr Parker -



[Faint, illegible handwriting or bleed-through text across the page]

19. A method for finding the proximities  
of the Orbits of Minor planets.  
C. H. F. Peters.
20. On incandescent lights.  
Geo: F. Barker.
21. On the Auriferous gravels of California.  
J. Sterry Hunt.

22.

## Biographical Memoir.

At the meeting, on April 21<sup>st</sup> a biographical  
Memoir of Louis F. <sup>Pourtales</sup> ~~Pourtales~~, prepared by  
Mr Agassiz was read by Mr Guyot, the  
author being absent.

The <sup>of the United States</sup>  
Visit of President Garfield

While the reading of the Papers was  
in progress on the last day of the session  
Pres<sup>t</sup> Garfield entered the room, & at the  
invitation of the President of the Academy,  
occupied a seat <sup>up</sup> on the platform, where  
he remained till the close of the meeting.

111

*[Faint, illegible handwriting throughout the page]*

[4/19/1881]

(28) Resignations

Mr Fairman Rogers having resigned the Office of Treasurer which he had held for sixteen years & Mr Coffin that of Home Secretary resolutions were adopted thanking these officers for their faithful services.

Elections.

Mr Simon Newcomb was elected Home Secretary of the Academy in place of Mr J. W. C. Coffin resigned.

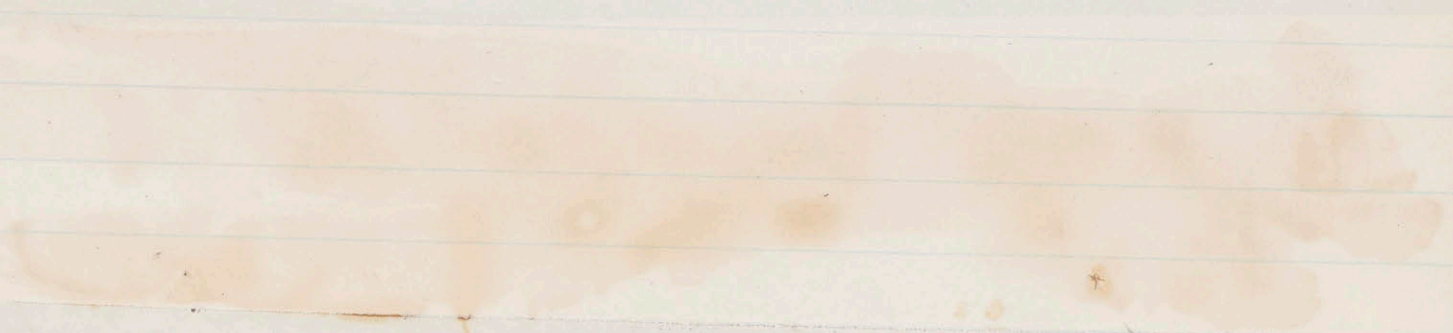
Mr J. W. C. Coffin was elected Treasurer of the Academy in place of Mr Fairman Rogers resigned.

The following members were ~~selected~~ elected <sup>to</sup> the Council for the ensuing year.

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Gibbs (W.)    | Hilgard (J. E.) |
| Hall (A.)     | King (C.)       |
| Baird (S. F.) | Rogers (F.)     |

The new members elected were  
H. A. Rowland of Johns Hopkins University Baltimore.  
& Arthur W. Wright Yale Coll; New Haven.

(30) (200)



Amendments to Constitution <sup>and</sup> Rules.

The pending Amendment to Sect 4 Article IV of the Constitution was adopted. Making the Section read as follows: "Nomination of Members and Foreign Associates may be made in writing, signed by any five members of the Academy, at any Stated Session to be voted on at the next Stated Session to be held in Washington." "

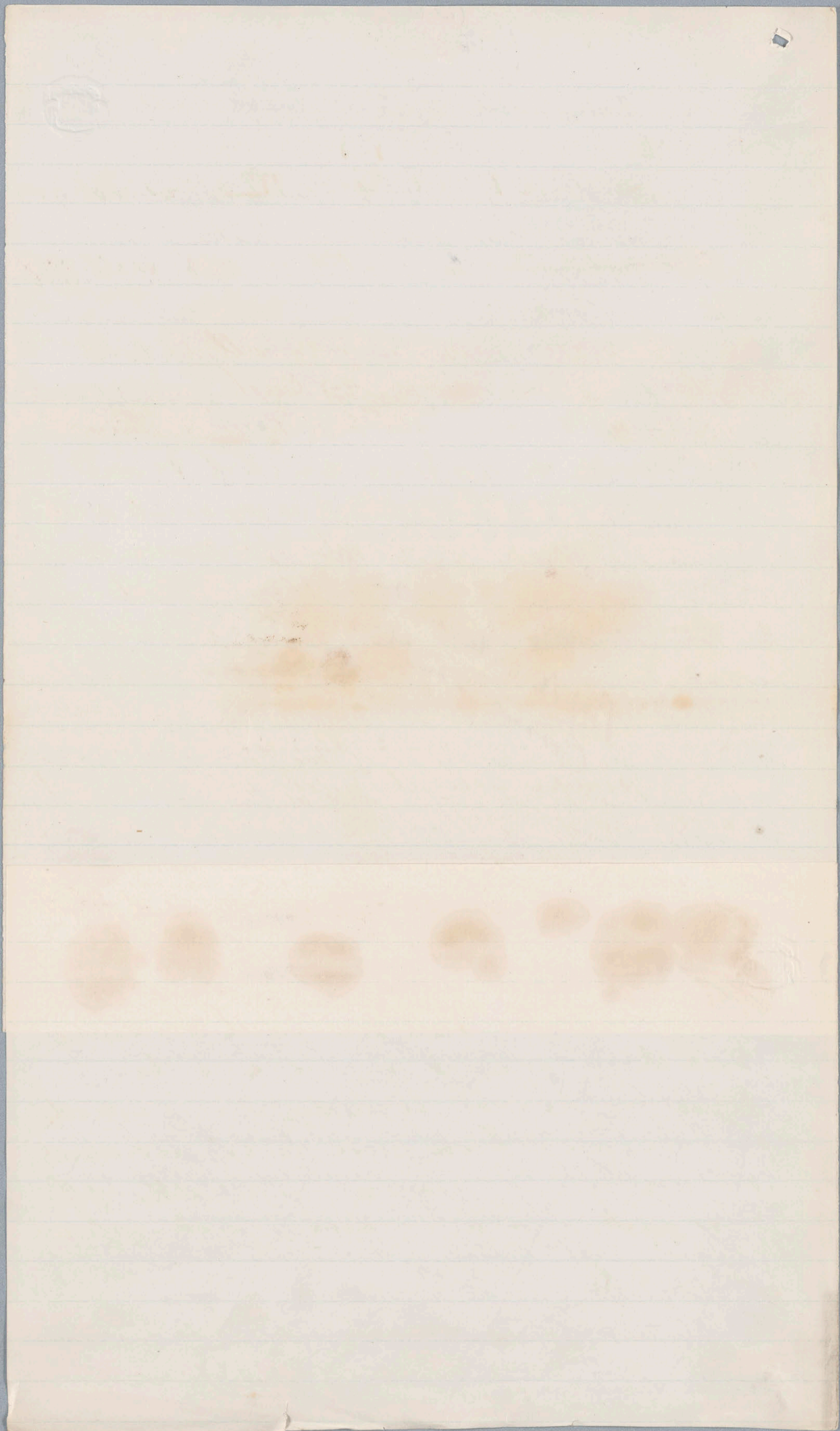
~~The pending Amendment to Sect 5 Article IV was adopted. The section now reads as follows: "Elections of Members shall be held in the following manner: One name shall be selected by ballot from the nominations presented. The name receiving the highest number of votes (provided that they are at least one-third of the votes cast) shall thereupon be voted on by ballot for Membership, & if two thirds of the votes cast, including blank votes, are in the affirmative, the person voted for shall be declared elected a member of the Academy. Any name failing to receive two thirds of the votes cast, shall not be voted for a second time on the same day; & unless receiving one third of the votes cast shall not be again be put in nomination at that session of the Academy.~~

~~Absent members may send their votes to the Secretary, which shall be counted in <sup>the</sup> ballot for election, but not in that for preference.~~

~~Before each election a discussion of the merits of the nominees will be in order.~~

~~Elections of Members shall only be held at Stated Sessions, & after that of April, 1872, not more than five members shall be elected at any one session.~~





Section V, Article IV ~~of the~~ <sup>as adopted</sup>  
 (Nomination) |

~~The constitution~~ <sup>as</sup> adopted ~~in 1857~~ ~~April 1857~~

is as follows -

Elections for membership shall be held in the following manner: Each member may inscribe on a ballot not more than five names of nominees selected from the list. Absent members may send such ballots to the Home Secretary. From the seven names receiving the highest number of votes in this preference-ballot the members present may proceed to elect new members in the following manner: At each ballot each member present may vote for not exceeding three persons, and the person receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected: Provided, That he receive two thirds of the votes cast and that his name appear on not less than twenty ballots: And provided further, that the number of members of the Academy be not already one hundred or over, in which case to be declared elected he must receive four fifths of the votes cast, and his name must appear

on at least twenty five ballots.

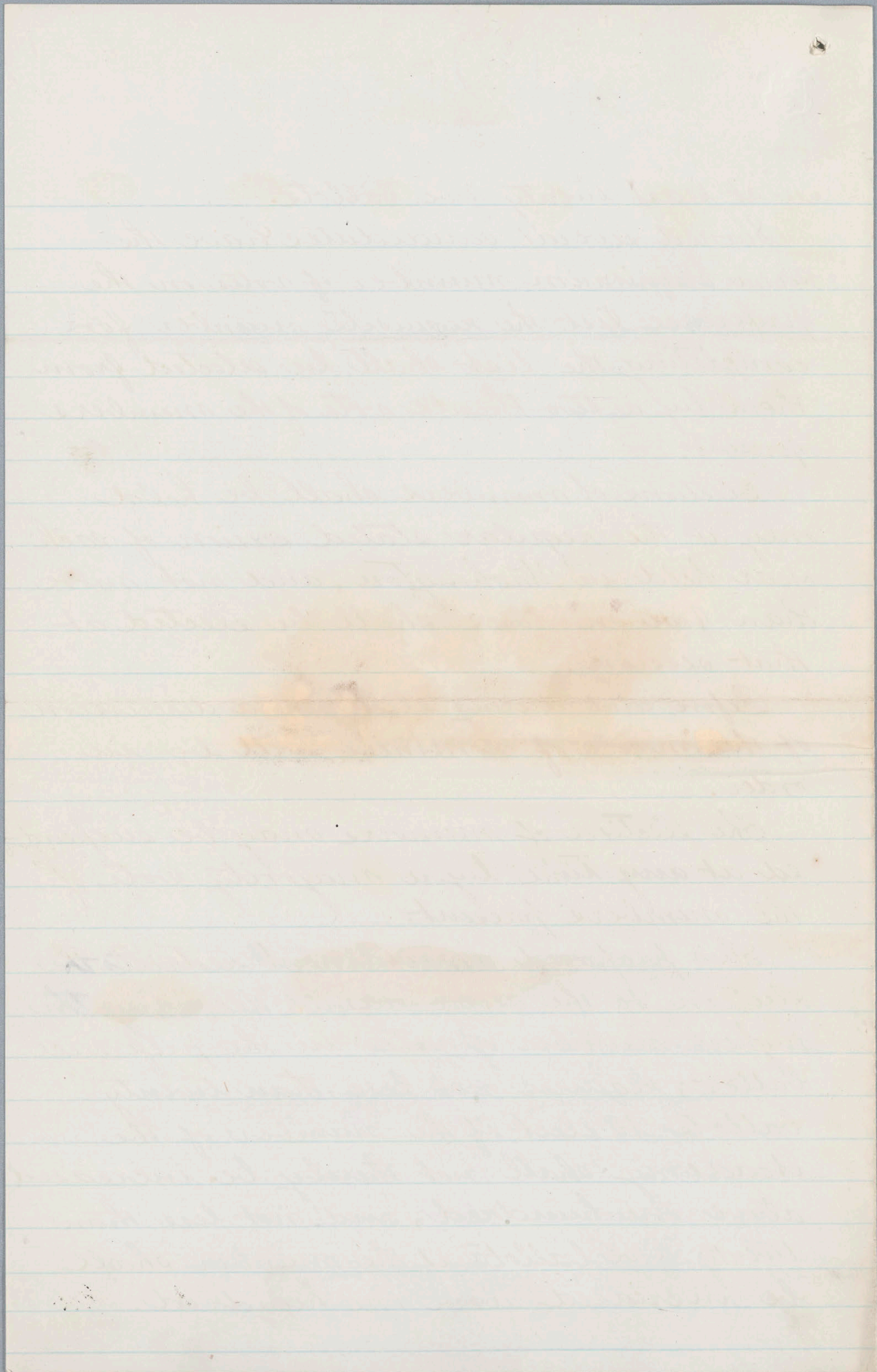
Should several candidates have the same minimum number of votes on the preference list the requisite number for completing the list shall be selected from them by a two thirds vote of the members present.

Elections of members shall be held only at the regular stated session of each year held in Washington, and not more than five members shall be elected at that session.

Before and during elections a discussion of the merits of nominees will be in order.

The election of members may be suspended at any time by a majority vote of the members present.

This ~~proposed~~ amendment restricts the election to the seven names receiving the highest number of votes in the preference ballot; requires not less than twenty ballots to elect if the number of the Academy shall not thereby be increased above one hundred, and not less than twenty five ballots if the number shall be increased above one hundred.



[4/19/1881]

The Council having <sup>(32)</sup> recommended that the Second Clause of the Regulation Amending Rules XI & XIII on Printing, adopted at the last April Session be amended, so as to read: "not later than one month after" instead of "at the meeting," this amendment was adopted.

The following Amendment to Section 1 Article 1 was recommended by the Council for Adoption to be voted on at the next Stated Session.

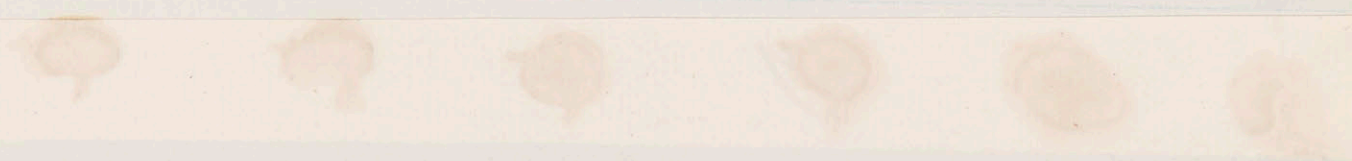
Amend Sect 1 Article 1. by adding the words:  
"Members shall be citizens of the United States or have declared their intention to become so."

### Resolutions of Thanks

A Resolution was passed thanking the Trustees of All Souls Church for their courtesy in granting the use of their Building ~~for~~ to the Academy for its meetings.

Also resolutions were passed ~~to~~ ~~thanking~~ ~~the~~ expressing the thanks of the Academy to the Hon<sup>WV</sup> Corcoran for his invitation to visit the Corcoran Gallery and the Washington Monument, and to the Anthropological Society & the Cosmos Club of Washington for their kind invitations to the members of the Academy.

The Academy ~~has~~ adjourned on Friday April 22<sup>d</sup> to meet in Stated Session in Philadelphia ~~at the University~~ on November 15<sup>th</sup> - 1881.



Advisory Committee on the Coming  
Transit of Venus.

The British Minister at Washington in a communication to our government, dated April 11<sup>th</sup> 1881 stated that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have deputed to a committee of the Council of the Royal Society of London the preliminary duty of reporting to Her Majesty's Government for approval what arrangements should be made, so far as Great Britain is concerned for taking part in the observations of the approaching Transit of Venus, & that said committee is desirous of knowing what part in the same work is to be undertaken by Foreign Governments who are likely to take active steps for observing the Transit.

This communication was transmitted by the Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Navy of the United States to Rear Admiral John Rodgers the Superintendent of the U. S. Naval Observatory, who is the President of the Commission appointed by our Government some years since to make arrangements for the observations of the Transit of Venus of 1874. & matters relating thereto.





This Commission which is regarded as still in force, being desirous to take measures as early as practicable to prepare for the observations by American Astronomers of the Transit of 1882, has through its President, the Superintendent of the U. S. Naval Observatory, requested me, as Pres<sup>t</sup> of the National Academy of Sciences & as a member of said Commission to nominate members of the Academy who shall form an advisory Committee to cooperate with the Commission in determining the best methods of observing the approaching Transit as well as the Stations to be occupied & the Instruments to be used.

In conformity with the request of the Superintendent of the U. S. Naval Observatory, the following members of the Academy have been designated as a committee to aid the Commission in the preparatory work, referred to.

Prof. C. W. F. Peters.	Sitchfield Obser <sup>y</sup>	Clinton N. Y.
" J. P. Langley.	Allegheny Obs <sup>y</sup>	Pittsburg Pa.
" E. C. Pickering	Harvard Coll: Obs <sup>y</sup>	Cambridge Mass.
" C. A. Young	Princeton Coll	Princeton N. J.
" H. A. Newton	Yale Coll	New Haven Conn.
" Henry Draper		New York.

These gentlemen have signified their willingness to serve on the Committee.

