

NOTE ON THE HISTORY OF THE MAP-COLORING PROBLEM.

THE map-coloring problem has recently been recalled to mind by some questions in the *Intermédiaire des Mathématiciens* and a paper by Mr. P. J. Heawood in the *Quarterly Journal of Mathematics*. Judging from the references given in these places, which mention merely Cayley and De Morgan among the earlier writers on the subject, it does not seem to be generally known that Möbius discussed the question, in a slightly different form, in his lectures in 1840. A note by Professor Baltzer, entitled, "Eine Erinnerung an Möbius und seinen Freund Weiske," relates how the problem was propounded to Möbius by his friend, Professor Weiske, the philologist, and is to be found in the *Berichte der Sächsischen Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Leipzig. Mathematisch-physische Classe.* Bd. 37, 1885, pp. 1-6.

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NOTES.

A REGULAR meeting of the AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY was held in New York on Saturday afternoon, March 27, at three o'clock, the Vice-President, Professor R. S. WOODWARD, in the chair. There were seventeen members present. On the recommendation of the Council, the following persons, nominated at the preceding meeting, were elected to membership: Mr. WILLIAM FREELAND, Harvard School, New York, N. Y.; Mr. GILBERT HARRISON JOHN HURST, Eton College, Windsor, England. Four nominations for membership were received. The amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws recommended by the Council at the preceding meeting were unanimously adopted.

The following papers were read:—

- (1) Mr. M. B. PORTER: "On the roots of the hypergeometric series."
- (2) Mr. JOSEPH COTTIER: "On the expression of the general equations of hydrodynamics in terms of curvilinear coordinates."
- (3) Professor JAMES P. PIERPONT: "On modular equations."