

# The Foundation of the Society.



A meeting of those interested in the objects of this Society was held in the Oriental Hotel, Bangkok, on February 26th, 1904. Mr. Hamilton King was asked to take the chair, and Dr. O. Frankfurter to act as secretary. Among those also present were Mr. A. d'Abaza, Mr. W. R. D. Beckett, Mr. R. Belhomme, Mr. E. Bock, Mr. M. E. F. Baird, Dr. Beyer, Mr. G. Coates, Mr. Th. Collmann, Mr. A. Cecil Carter, Dr. Dekeyser, Mr. G. Dauphinot, Mr. L. Diemer-Hansen, Mr. F. H. Giles, Colonel Gerini, Rev. Canon Greenstock, Dr. H. Campbell Highet, Mr. J. Homan van der Heide, Mr. J. W. Hinchley, Mr. M. Inagaki, Mr. E. St. J. Lawson, Mr. T. H. Lyle, Dr. T. Masao, Dr. G. B. McFarland, Mr. W. H. Mundie, Mr. P. Petithuguenin, Phya Prajakich, Phra Phaisan, Dr. E. Reyttter, Mr. C. H. Ramsay, Colonel Schau, Mr. C. Sandreczki, Mr. P. Mackenzie Skinner, Mr. R. Sheridan, Mr. G. Schulze, Mr. C. Thorne, Mr. F. G. Traves, and Mr. W. J. F. Williamson.

The first resolution proposed was to the effect that those there assembled should form themselves into a society for research and investigation in matters appertaining to Siam, the more specific name and object of which association should be set forth in a set of rules to be adopted later.

This was proposed by Mr. Beckett, seconded by Mr. Coates, and agreed to.

Mr. Beckett next moved that the gentlemen there assembled who should signify their intention of signing such rules when adopted, and of paying the sum later agreed on as the annual subscription, should constitute the foundation members of the Society.

This was seconded by Mr. Williamson, and carried, Mr. Skinner suggesting that the list of foundation members should not be confined to those actually present.

The question of electing a President and Hon. Secretary of the permanent organisation was then taken up. The Chairman pointed out that Mr. Coates might fairly be described as the father of the new society,

and suggested that he should be asked to accept the presidentship. Mr. Coates, however, said he intended shortly to go to Java and so would be prevented from attending at the outset. The President elected should be here to help on the society, and he suggested Mr. Hamilton King or Mr. Beckett.

Mr. Belhomme proposed that Mr. Beckett be appointed President of the Siam Society. This was seconded by Mr. Williamson and at once adopted.

For the post of Hon. Secretary and Librarian Mr. Giles proposed Dr. Frankfurter. Mr. d'Abaza seconded, and this was also agreed to unanimously.

After proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Hamilton King for his services, the President then took the chair and thanked the meeting for electing him.

The rules already drawn up and printed by a provisional committee were next discussed at some length, and were finally adopted.

The remaining officers were afterwards elected as follows: Vice-Presidents, Colonel G. E. Gerini, Mr. Frank H. Giles, and Dr. E. Reyttter; asst. Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. H. Mundie; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. J. F. Williamson; Members of Council, Mr. A. d'Abaza, Mr. J. Ferrando, Mr. J. Homan van der Heide, Mr. T. Masao, Phya Prajakich, and the Rev. Père Schmitt.

The meeting then adjourned after those present had enrolled themselves as members.