

solid state of selenium which evolves heat on crystallizing—all appear to be homologues, at once, of liquid water below 32°, and of the glassy state of matter.

Should this hypothesis be verified, water below 32°, or rather, perhaps, from the temperature of maximum density downwards through that of freezing, may have to be regarded as the type of the vitreous condition of matter; and the causes of the peculiar characters of that condition, its effects on the transmission of the vibrations of sound and light, the conchoidal fracture, &c., may have to be discovered by researches on its molecular nature.

III. “On the Effect of the presence of Metals and Metalloids upon the Electric Conductivity of Pure Copper.” By A. MATTHIESSEN, Esq., and M. HOLZMANN, Esq. Communicated by Professor WHEATSTONE. Received March 14, 1860.

(Abstract.)

After studying the effect of suboxide of copper, phosphorus, arsenic, sulphur, carbon, tin, zinc, iron, lead, silver, gold, &c., on the conducting power of pure copper, we have come to the conclusion *that there is no alloy of copper which conducts electricity better than the pure metal.*

May 3, 1860.

Sir BENJAMIN C. BRODIE, Bart., President, in the Chair.

In accordance with the Statutes, the Secretary read the names of the Candidates recommended by the Council for Election into the Society, viz.—

Frederick Augustus Abel, Esq.
Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P.
John Frederic Bateman, Esq.
Edward Brown-Séquard, M.D.
Richard C. Carrington, Esq.
Francis Galton, Esq.
Joseph Henry Gilbert, Esq.
Sir William Jardine, Bart.

Thomas Hewitt Key, Esq.
Joseph Lister, Esq.
Rev. Robert Main, M.A.
Robert William Mylne, Esq.
Roundell Palmer, Esq., Q.C.
John Thomas Quckett, Esq.
Edward Smith, M.D.

The following communications were read :—