

placed between the pots, and the watts and temperature gradients were determined in the manner described. At least two tests of each material were made, the mean temperature throughout being about 40° centigrade. The results are given in the table (p. 287).

It will be noticed that hair felt was the best insulator that was tested. The insulation in the case of brown paper was practically that of air with subdivided spaces, as the paper occupied relatively a small volume; a comparison of this with insulation by air only will show how great an improvement in air-lagging such a simple expedient will give.

In repeating the experiments with wider ranges and a higher mean temperature, indications were observed tending to show that the conductivity is a function of the temperature. It is hoped to continue the investigation as regards this point, and to extend it to other insulators.

“On the Orientation of Greek Temples, being the Results of some Observations taken in Greece and Sicily, in May, 1898.” By F. C. PENROSE, M.A., F.R.S. Received May 5,—Read June 15, 1899.

(Abstract.)

The orientation of the Cabeirion Temple, near Thebes, of which the angle has been disputed (see p. 46 in my paper of 1897), was re-measured with the theodolite in May, 1898, and the previous observations confirmed. An additional example is added from an archaic Temple of Neptune in the Isle of Poros, introducing the employment of the bright zodiacal star Regulus, which I had not before met with.

In Sicily the re-examination of the temples at Girgenti, where, in my former visit, I had relied for azimuth on the sun's shadow and the time, has enabled me to give to the elements some amendments in detail, the only point of consequence being, that the orientation date of the temple named Juno Lacinia is brought within the period of the Hellenic colonisation of that city.

The most interesting point in the paper seems to be, that in the case of two Athenian temples, namely the Theseum and the later Erechtheum—*i.e.*, the temple now partially standing—it is shown that the days of those months on which the sunrise, heralded by the star, illuminated the sanctuary, coincided exactly, on certain years of the Metonic cycle, with the days of the Athenian lunar months on which three important festivals known to be connected with at least one of those temples were held. The years so determined agree remarkably well with the probable dates of the dedication of those temples; and in the case of the first mentioned, the festival, which was named The Thesea, seems to leave little doubt that the traditional name of the temple, which has recently been much disputed, is the correct one.