

THE inaugural sitting of the International Geodesical Congress took place on the 20th September at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Paris, under the presidency of General Hanez, the delegate for Spain. No delegate was present for Great Britain or for the United States ; the German Empire was represented by General de Bayer, the Russian Empire by General de Broch, the Austrian Empire by Dr. Oppolzer ; Italy, Belgium, Roumania, Switzerland, and the several German States were also represented. M. Charles Jourdain, member of the French Institute, and general secretary of the Minister of Public Instruction, delivered a speech in the name of M. Wallon, who is travelling in the provinces. It was replied by General Hanez and by Ge-

neral de Bayer. M. Faye spoke in the name of the French section, which had invited a number of eminent men of science to take part in the proceedings. A number of reports of the Permanent Section having been read, the assembly adjourned to the following day. On the following evening a number of the delegates visited the Observatory of Paris. It is stated that the longitude of Palermo and Lisbon will be determined electrically with the instruments which have been used for determining the longitudes of Vienna and Algiers.

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