

sion of international scientific applause and gratulation. Much uncompleted work appears to have been interrupted by Helmholtz's sudden death, among other things the completion of the new edition of the Handbook of Physiological Optics, and a compendious treatise on Mathematical Physics. This latter book, which is to include the development of optical theory along lines already indicated by the work of Maxwell and of Hertz, will, it is reported, be brought to completion by Dr. Arthur König.

In 1893, Helmholtz undertook for the first time a journey to America, upon which trip he was accompanied by Mrs. von Helmholtz and by four assistants from the Reichsanstalt. The party visited Chicago, and Helmholtz attended the sittings of the chamber of delegates of the International Congress of Electricians, of which body he had been elected honorary president. He took an active part in the deliberations of the chamber, to whose service he brought his fundamental knowledge of the subjects under consideration, and likewise a wide experience from the sittings of previous congresses.

This was his last important public appearance. On the return voyage it was his misfortune to fall down the companion-way of the ship, sustaining injuries from which, at his age, the most serious consequences were to be feared. Scarcely had he made complete recovery when the two paralytic shocks occurred which caused his death at noonday on September 8th, 1894. Thus passed from earth, at the age of seventy-three years, the first physicist of our time.