

[Untitled remarks following the paper Société de Metz]*

Mr. Jules Bienaymé

Comptes Rendus Acad. Sci., Paris, **54**, p. 796

After reading of this piece,¹ **Mr. Bienaymé** said:

“I demand to the Academy to agree to insert into the *Comptes rendus* the Note of the Société de Metz.

“The desire to stop this Société de Prévoyance² on the inclination revealed by the Report of Mr. Didion, the general, has alone dictated the communication that I have made to the Academy some weeks ago (March 10, t. LIV, p. 536). I had to consider as rigorously exact the information consigned in a public Report, which is only the series of other Reports of the same author, which seem all to have been printed with the assent of the Société de Prévoyance; I saw in Mr. Didion, the general, a member of the Society, not *a party* contrary to its interests. If the elements and the calculations delivered to the readers in these Reports are erroneous, it is quite clear that my calculations, which are simply the necessary consequence of them, must be affected of the same errors. If Mr. Didion, the general, is not himself deceived, if there is not omitted the capital of 190000 fr. indicated at the end of the preceding Note, if *his Report is a serious work* as this Note says expressly, I have nothing to withdraw of the results to which the calculation has led me. Moreover, I have remarked that for the Society of Metz there was yet time to remedy its situation; and if some resources, that the Report of Mr. Didion, the general, did not mention, assures to this society the effective remedy that I desired for it, my unique end, the prosperity of the Benefit Societies, will be attained in a much more satisfactory manner for me.”

*Translated by Richard J. Pulskamp, Department of Mathematics & Computer Science, Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH. June 14, 2010

¹*Note sur la véritable situation de la Société de Prévoyance et de Secours mutuels de Metz; adressée par le Président et les Membres de la Commission du Conseil d'Administration*, pp. 793–796. This document speaks in defense of the Benefit Society of Metz and argues that it is solvent.

²*Translator's note*: Provident Society.