An Important Convention in This City.

The Holly district steam engineers, superintendents and managers' association held its third annual convention at Haynes hotel yesterday and the meeting was attended by many of the 'best known experts' in the country. These officers were elected at the evening session: President, R. H. Gallagher of Harrisburg, Pa.; first vice-president, C. E. Emory of New York; second vice-president, H. C. Hamblen of this city; third, G. W. Shouck of Wilkesbarre, Pa.; fourth, William Ridley of Denver, Colo.; secretary, Ira A. Holly of New Haven; treasurer, Robert Mowbray; financial committee, A. Z. Shock of Bloomsburg, Pa., J. B. Walsh of Lockport, N. Y., and A. D. Merritt of this city.

The association numbers 45 members, but only half that number were present yesterday, over eight being at the Chicago convention. Nevertheless, the papers and reports showed a deep knowledge of the subjects treated, and the discussions were of the highest order.

The convention met at 11 o'clock yesterday morning, and preliminary business occupied its attention till noon. P. B. Bishop, president of the American district steam company of Lockport, N. Y., presided till new officers were elected. In the evening, a paper was read by the reading or a paper on "High and low pressure, which is the most economical in heating a building from a central station" by R. H. Gallagher of Harrisburg, Pa. He favored the low pressure, maintaining that the consumer was much benefited in this fashion. Messrs. Barden, Walsh, Shouck and E. P. Holly discussed the subject with warmth. High pressure having several advocates. Then E. P. Holly of this city read an able paper on "What is the value of crude oil for fuel as compared with coal," but the speaker said a fixed value could not be ascertained, and that the question must be considered, such as the nearness to oil or coal centers. He thought, however, that all things being equal, oil would not hold its own.

"For steam-heating purposes, the most economical pressure to be maintained, the pressure has to be in relation to space, and the size of the house," he said, and led the conversation till supper time.

Then a paper written by Charles S. Chase of New York, who was not able to be present till today, was read on "Can cooking be done economically by steam?" What benefits are derived from the forming of steam condensation?" and the discussion of this topic took up the rest of the evening.

The session will last to day and the papers to read are as follows: "On the general management of Holly steam plants," A. Z. Shock of Bloomsburg, Pa.; "Refractories for boilers and the prevention of boiler explosions," William Ridley of Lockport; "Is it advisable to heat feed water by direct steam," B. C. Smith of Auburn, N. Y.; "Cost per annum of maintaining steam meters and the side of the regulator should the meter be placed," John Walsh of Lockport; "The wearing out of the regulating of the damper," N. C. Locke of Salem; "Combustion of fuel and boiler furnaces," Thomas Murphy of Detroit, Mich.; "Rocking grate bars as compared with stationary ones," C. B. Holly of Phillipsburg, Pa.