

## JUNE, 1881.

The usual monthly meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, the 14th June, Mr. T. Stephens, vice-president, in the chair.

The following gentlemen who had previously been nominated by the Council were balloted for, and declared duly elected as Fellows of the Society, viz., Messrs. Cecil J. Parsons, Frederick Mace, and Charles C. Nairn.

The SECRETARY brought under notice the following returns for the month of May, viz.:—

1. Number of Visitors to Museum—On Sundays, 476 ; on week days, 610 ; total, 1,086.
2. Ditto to Gardens, total 4,029.
3. Plants and Seeds received at Gardens :—From Mr. C. F. Creswell, Melbourne, Palm seeds from Lord Howe's Island, and 50 plants. From Mr. J. Sangwell, Melbourne, 48 Ferns. From Mr. Wm. Bull, London, 30 packets seeds. From Mr. J. T. Duthie, Superintendent Botanic Gardens, Saharanpur, N.W. Province, India, seven varieties of seeds of Coniferæ. From Mr. J. Latham, Liverpool-street, 30 packets imported seeds. From Baron Ferd. von Müller, 3 packets seeds.
4. Plants, etc., sent from Gardens :—To Messrs. Shepherd and Co., Sydney, 1 box Bulbs, various. To Mr. C. F. Creswell, Melbourne, 1 ditto ditto. To the Horticultural Gardens, Melbourne, 1 ditto. To Melbourne Botanic Gardens, 1 case of plants and Sphagnum Moss. To Lieut. James, H.I.J.M. ship Riujio, 25 packets seeds. To Captain Fukushima, of the same ship, 50 ditto ditto.
5. Trench supplied :—To the Acclimatisation Society, Geelong, 132 fish.

*Meteorological Returns.*

1. From the Marine Board :—Tables from Mount Nelson and South Bruny for May.
2. From Mr. D. C. Purdy :—Tables from Macquarie Harbour for March and April.

Time of leafing, flowering, and fruiting of a few Standard Plants in the Botanic Gardens during May, 1881 :—

- 10th. Medlars commencing to ripen.
- 21st. *Photinia serrulata*, commencing to flower.
- 23rd. *Diosma alba*, ditto.
- 28th. *Ailanthus*, leaves all shed.
- 30th. *Spiræa prunifolia pleno*, commencing to flower.

The presentations to the Museum were as follow :—

1. From Mr. H. A. Ward, Rochester, New York :—Skin of fox prepared for mounting. Cast of Upper Silurian Fossil (*Homalonotus delphinocephalus*).
2. From the Exhibition Commissioners :—Specimens of Minerals, Models of Fruit, etc., etc.
3. From His Excellency Sir J. H. Lefroy, C.B., K.C.M.G., etc. :—A framed portrait of Captain Cook.

The CHAIRMAN exhibited some specimens of the rocks of Port Cygnet, together with rolled pebbles from the drift of the Huon Valley, which had been forwarded to the Museum ; and remarked that the latter were representatives of rocks not now found *in situ* within the settled districts of the south, and that with reference to the question of the auriferous capabilities of Port Cygnet there was not yet much that could be added to the information already communicated to the Society.

The HON. SECRETARY read a paper contributed by Professor R. Tate, Assoc. Linn. Soc., F.G.S., "On Type Species of Tasmanian Shells, unrecorded in the 'Census of Tasmanian Shells.'"

The CHAIRMAN read, "Notes on a species of *Zieria* (*Z. veronica*)" by Augustus Simson, F.L.S., with its identification by Baron von Müller.

Mr. E. J. CROUCH, M.R.C.S., Eng., read a paper on "The Queen's Domain, with suggestions for its improvement."

A long and animated discussion, in which most of the Fellows present took part, followed the reading of this paper, and many valuable and practical suggestions were brought out. It was ultimately determined, on the motion of Mr. BARNARD, seconded by Mr. JAMES GRANT, that a committee of this Society, consisting of Mr. Belbin, M.H.A., Mr. F. Abbott, Superintendent of the Botanic Gardens, Dr. E. L. Crowther, M.H.A., Captain Stanley, R.N., Mr. John Swan, Mr. Justin Browne, and Mr. E. J. Crouch, with power to add to their number, be formed to consider the subject in all its bearings, and to confer with the Government as to the best means of contributing to the improvement of the Domain.

The meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the authors of the various papers, and the donors of presentations to the Museum.

## JULY, 1881.

The monthly evening meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, the 12th of July; His Excellency, the President, in the chair.

Mr. W. F. Petterd, of Launceston, who had previously been nominated by the Council, was balloted for, and declared duly elected as a Fellow of the Society.

The hon. secretary, Mr. BARNARD, brought forward the following returns for June :—

1. Number of visitors to Museum :—On Sundays, 374 ; on week days, 843 ; total, 1,217.
2. Do. to Gardens, 3,495.
3. Plants received at Botanic Gardens :—From Mr. J. Smith, Riddle's Creek, Victoria, 45 varieties of Fruit Trees. From the Horticultural Society's Gardens, Melbourne, one bundle new Fruit Scions. From Royal Gardens, Kew, England, one case of Willow Cuttings. From the Rev. — Codrington, Norfolk Island, one sack of Norfolk Island Pine Seeds.
4. Plants sent from Gardens :—To Rev. M. W. Gilleran, for church grounds, Ouse, 50 plants. To Right Rev. Bishop Murphy, 50 plants.
5. Books and Periodicals received.
6. Presentations to Museum.

### *Meteorological Returns :—*

1. From the Marine Board, tables from Kent's Group Lighthouse for February, March, April, and May; Cape Wickham, do.; Goose Island, do. for April and May; Swan Island, do. for May; Bruny Island, do. for June; and Mount Nelson, do. do.
  2. From Mr. D.C. Purdy, Macquarie Harbour, table for May.
- Time of leafing, flowering, and fruiting of a few standard plants in the Botanic Gardens during June, 1881 :—
- 17th. *Maclaura aurantiaca*, commencing to shed leaves.
  - 20th. Common Privet, ditto.
  - 25th. *Iris alata*, commencing to flower.
  - 28th. *Calycanthus præcox*, in flower.
  - 30th. Black Mulberry, leaves all shed.

The presentations to the Museum were as follow :—

1. From Captain Rapp, barque Italy, Stalactites and Crystals of Carbonate of Lime, from a cavern at Hamelin Bay, West Australia.
2. From Master B. Watchorn, specimens of Tin Ore, etc., from Mounts Bischoff and Heemskirk.