ORCA CAPENSIS.

In reference to a specimen upon the table, Mr. Stephens said that some of the Fellows present might remember a rumour from Launceston a few months ago of the discovery in the neighbourhood of Piper's River of a fossil jawbone of a gigantic extinct animal. Inquiry having been made, Mr. W. P. Hales had kindly secured and forwarded the specimen, when it turned out to be a weather-beaten portion of the skull of an Orca, several species of which inhabit the Southern Ocean. There being no means at hand of identifying the species, the bone had been sent to Mr. E. P. Ramsay with a request that he would kindly compare it with the specimens in the Australian Museum. Mr. Ramsay promptly replied as follows :- "The bone, as you justly remarked, is the jaw of an Orca, the right upper portion of the maxilla; it agrees best with O. capensis, but has a less number of teeth." Mr. Stephens went on to say that this was a very variable genus, and that Gray and Van Beneden differ as to the number of teeth in Orca capensis, the former giving 12-12-12, and the latter 13-13-13, as the formula. The Orcas, or killers, as they are popularly termed, are without exception the most ferocious inhabitants of the ocean, and even the largest sized whales are not safe from their attacks. There is a good skeleton of Orca pacifica in the Museum.

VOTE OF THANKS.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the authors of the very interesting papers that had been read, which was carried by acclamation. The meeting then terminated.

## NOVEMBER, 1887.

The final monthly meeting of the Royal Society of Tasmania for the 1887 session was held on November 21. The President, His Excellency Sir Robert Hamilton, K.C.B., occupied the chair, and there was a very large attendance of Fellows and visitors, including many ladies. His Excellency was accompanied by Miss Hamilton, Miss Hervey, and Mr. H. W. B. Robinson.

NEW MEMBERS.

Messrs. J. S. Laurie and J. F. Echlin were elected Fellows of the Society.

EXPLORATION OF MOUNT MUNRO.

The Secretary read the following letter from Baron Von Mueller:—
"November 19, 1887. To the Hon. Sec. Royal Society of Tasmania.—Allow me, honoured sir, to inquire whether possibly some arrangements can be made this summer by your amateur naturalists to explore Mount Munro, on Clarke Island, in the interest of geology, zoology, and physiology. So far as I am aware, this mountain has never yet been visited for the purposes of science beyond triangulation, and as it is nearly as high as Strzelecki Peak on Flinders Island, where Dr. Milligan made so many important observations on minerals, insects, and plants, any researches carried out on high elevations of Mt. Munro should also be replete with novel interest. Perhaps during the Christmas and New Year's holidays some of the Tasmanian scientists could unite for a tour to Mount Munro, which would not involve more expenditure and exertion than spending the holidays in other and less profitable excursions. The Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria, at my suggestion, will institute researches on King Island next month. If from Hobart and other places the Mount Munro region were searched for, Tasmanian science might be expected.—Respectfully yours, Ferd Von Mueller."

Dr. SANDFORD pointed out that Mount Munro was not on Clarke

Island, but on Barren Island.

Mr. R. M. JOHNSTON said this mistake had probably caused Baron Müeller to forget that he had forwarded a list of plants found along the base of Mount Munro. But it was the Alpine plants that it was desirable to explore, and he thought if the Baron himself would come over next summer arrangements could be made for a picnic on a large scale.

## PAPÉRS.

- 1. First "List of Birds observed at Tasman Peninsula." By J. R. McClymont, M.A. The list enumerated 70 species of birds observed by Mr. McClymont.
- 2. "The Highlands of Lake St. Clair." By Colonel W. V. Legge, R.A. The paper was more descriptive than scientific, and dealt with the magnificent scenery in the locality of Lake St. Clair, and the desirableness of making a road to the West Coast through that locality. Some interesting details of the topography of the less frequented parts were given, including descriptions of several unnoted lakes to which names were given by the writer. Colonel Legge strongly recommended an annual expenditure on this highroad to the West Coast.
- 3. "The nesting of certain Birds on the Acteon Island." By Col. W. V. Legge, R A.
- 4. "Observations with respect to the Nature and Classification of the rocks of the Tertiary Period, more particularly relating to Tasmania." By Mr. R. M. Johnston, F.L.S. He said he would not take up the time of the meeting by reading the paper which would be printed, and could then be better followed, but by an outline of the paper. He endeavoured to show some of the difficulties connected with the classification of the rocks of the Tertiary Period in Australia and Tasmania. Repeated elevations of the sea throughout the whole period as in England do not occur, and hence the local classifier is deprived of the aid of the per centage method as applied by Sir Chas. Lyell in the determination of the principal divisions of the European rocks of the Period v. Eocene, Miocene, and Pliocene. For these reasons Mr. Johnston proposes to divide the system into two simple groups, Paleogene and Neogene; the former embracing all marine and leaf-bed deposits, including the older basalts and tuffs; and the latter embracing the older raised terrace drifts. He also stated that during the Neogene age there is some evidence of a change of climate. The drifts evidently indicate greater plurial action. and although from our Alpine heights small glaciers may have descended towards the plains, the latter afford no evidence of "boulder drift" such as is found throughout the lower levels in Scotland. He therefore is of opinion that while the combined effects of the eccentricity of the earth's orbit in conjunction with recurrent periods of precession may have had some assisting influence, the direct effects of these of themselves were not so severe as in the Northern Hemisphere, owing to the impossibility of the smaller area of southern lands being entirely shut off from the warm equatorial ocean currents, as was the case in Europe during the glacial epoch which reached its greatest intensity there during the pleistocene period. The elevation of the land in the Southern Hemisphere is probably the chief cause of local glaciation. The paper included a list of fossils tabulated and arranged, showing 357 genera and 908 species.
- 5. "On the geological conditions of the site of the new storage reservoir near Hobart," by Mr. T. Stephens, F.G.S. The writer described the situation of the fault which he had mentioned in 1877 as likely to be found traversing the site of the dam of the new reservoir, and remarked that, though the site had not been wisely selected in the

first instance, there was fortunately an absence of the circumstances usually attending such disturbances of the bed rocks, and that under the present able management there need be no doubt as to the stability of the work.

6. "Common-sense in Education: being a brief survey of the Methods of Education and Instruction in their bearing on the Practical Requirements of Life." By Mr. J. S. Laurie. Mr. LAURIE contended that science and modern languages should form the instruction of at any rate five-sixths of the masses to be educated. He quoted several authorities as to the objects and method of education, and said it was hardly creditable to human nature that one generation bequeathed so little to succeeding generations from the instruction imparted to it. The one redeeming feature of the colossal system of instruction now being imparted throughout the world was that special instruction was now occasionally being given for specific purposes. He defined education to be 'To give harmonious and adequate development to all natural powers, with a view to the right discharge of the functions and duties of life, and proceeded to cite the opinions of many eminent names in English literature condemnatory of the system of education adopted through several centuries. Going into the detailed work of ordinary grammar schools, he condemned the method of teaching each subject, and admitted that many of the masters had a clear appreciation of the duties of their honourable office, but were bound in one set system by the necessity of working in connection with recognised standards adopted by the accepted examination tests. The education of the North American Indians answered its purpose, and fitted the child for the duties it would have to discharge when it came to take its place in the organisation of the tribe, and the instruction of the ancient Greek was equally perfect, securing the mens sana in corpore sano which was the object desired. In our modern experience, on the testimony of a perfect galaxy of witnesses of the highest order, except, perhaps, in medicine and certain exact sciences fitting for a specific pursuit, we could not boast of even a reasonable measure of success. With the exception of certain holders of the higher positions, the masters as a body could not be blamed for this failure, as all thought of what might be done was crushed out by the necessity of what must be done. Too much was attempted, and nothing done well. He endorsed the opinion that nature should be rigidly followed, and considered that the Kinder-garten system symbolised what would have to be adopted throughout all stages of education as the modern method. It was fortunate, as far as this colony was concerned, that object lessons were adopted in nearly all our schools that the Education Act included the application of the Kindergarten method in the earlier stages, and that the establishment of technical classes was contemplated. The expenditure upon technical instruction in England had now reached the respectable annual sum of £400,000, and instead of being looked upon as an expenditure, was now accepted as an economy. Australia was fortunate in having such an admirable model as that established in the Technical College at Sydney, which was not only elevating the taste of that community, but adding to the aggregate value of the work of the mechanics. (Cheers.)

Discussion on Mr. Laurie's paper was deferred until a future date.

At the invitation of the President, a vote of thanks was passed to the writers of the papers that had been read during the evening.

## ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT.

His EXCELLENCY then delivered the following address in closing the present session of the Society:—

Gentlemen,-In winding up the session of the Royal Society of

Tasmania for 1887 it is desirable that I should, as your president,

briefly review the operations of the Society in the period.

Our number of Fellows has considerably increased, 21 having been elected in the session. The attendance at the monthly meetings has been larger than in any previous session. I am glad to say also that we have been favoured by the presence of ladies to a greater extent than has hitherto been the case, and I am sure they will admit that at than has interest been the ease, and I am sure they win admit that at every meeting they have attended they have listened to much which has interested them. The additions to the library have been very satisfactory, and Dr. Agnew, our most liberal benefactor, has had bound for the Society at his own expense that very valuable work, "Gould's Humming Birds," consisting of 28 parts. An unusually interesting set of papers has been laid before the Society, as the report of our proceedings when it is issued will show. In Zoology we have had contributions from Messrs. Petterd, Johnston, Saville-Kent, Morton, and Colonel Legge, and in this section I would refer to the very important discovery of the egg of the echidna, or porcupine, at Campbell Town. In Icthyology we have had the very interesting paper of Mr. Saville-Kent on the acclimatisation of the salmon, besides other contributions. Mr. Johnston has furnished some valuable notes on some rare fishes of Tasmania, and Mr. Morton was able to submit a specimen of a new fish to Tasmania which was not only a new species, but has proved to belong to a new genus, and which he has named after our greatest local icthyologist, Mr. Johnston. In Ornithology, Colonel Legge's papers on the "Birds of Maria Island" and the "Acteon Isles" are most valuable, as well as Mr. McClymont's list of birds of Tasman's Peninsula. In Conchology Mr. Petterd was able to furnish a description of two new species of Tasmanian fresh water shells. In Geology and Palæontology several important papers have been read by Mr. Johnston, more especially the one entitled "Observations with regard to the nature and classification of the rocks of the tertiary period of Australasia," and Mr. Stephens made some interesting observations on the geology of the Scottsdale line. In Botany we have had the elaborate and valuable paper of Mr. Bastow on the "Tasmanian Hepaticae," together with other important communications, and he has further exhibited to us most interesting objects under the microscope at our monthly meetings. We have also had some valuable contributions from our veteran contributor, Baron von Mueller, and some useful notes from Mr. Perrin and Mr. Abbott. In Astronomy Mr. Biggs has furnished two valuable papers, the one on the "Comets of February, 1880, and January, 1887," and the other on the double star, "Alpha Centauri, with a graphic projection of its orbit from its apparent curve." On the Geographical side we have had a paper from the Rev. J. B. Woollnough on Iceland, giving a graphic account of the history and present condition, both social and political, of that island, which he visited some years ago, and another from Mr. Andrew giving a very lucid description of the operations of the diamond diggings in South Africa. In Exploration we have no actual results to show, but we have done our best to help forward the proposed expedition to the Antarctic regions, acting in complete accord with the Antarctic Committee of the Royal Society of Victoria, and have done all in our power to press forward this movement. A deputation from the council of this Society waited upon the Government to ask their co-operation and assistance in this matter. They pointed out that not only, in common with all those interested in Antarctic exploration, did they anticipate important scientific results from an expedition to these seas, but also that Tasmania, as the most southern of the Australian colonies, was particularly interested in the results of such an expedition should it prove successful in obtaining in these regions a sufficient take of whales or any other commercial products which would make the expedition a remunerative one.

Premier received the deputation very kindly, and said that, although he could give no pledge, he had little doubt that Tasmania would be ready to contribute her share of the £10,000 estimated as necessary to start the expedition, provided it were tederally divided among all the Australian colonies. Subsequently in reply to a telegram from Sir Erasmus Ommanney, the secretary to the Antarctic Committee of the British Association, our Society signified their concurrence in a united appeal of the learned and scientific societies throughout Australia to promote Antarctic exploration. We cannot say what the ultimate result may be, but I think it will be admitted that this Society has not been wanting in its efforts to help forward to the best of its power the object of Antarctic exploration. It is very satisfactory to find that the Royal Geographical Society of London has lent its powerful aid in Antarctic exploration, and I would ask you to listen to the following extracts from an article in The Times of London which came by last mail showing how much the thoughts of England are directed at present to this subject. After recounting all that has been done in this direction up to the present time it says :-

"This, then, is all that has been done to advance our knowledge of the immense area which to so large an extent influences the climates of Australia, South Africa, and South America, and a knowledge of the meteorology and oceanography, which is absolutely necessary before we can pretend to understand the laws that govern the climates of our globe. Only a few patches of land here and there along the Antarctic Circle have been toucked, and the big patch which Ross discovered to the south of New Zealand. What we know of these patches has only served to whet our curiosity to know more. There are certainly wonders to be discovered there not surpassed in their kind by anything which explorers have told us of the other end of the world. Of the great enterprises which go so largely to make up the accumulated glory of our country, exploring expeditions, polar and other, form a considerable part. It is for the greater good of a nation to store up such a reputation as these enterprises bring, and from this point of view alone young Australia should be encouraged to enter on the great work of exploring the vast unknown region that lies at her door. But in doing so she would be doing real service to her own material interests, and to the interests of the world at large if her work were conducted on thorough scientific principles. Any new expedition to the Antarctic should be planned with the greatest care. It should be remembered that all that has hitherto been done has been with sailing vessels; now that we have steam the task of exploration should be much easier. It would be absolutely necessary for a party to winter at as high a latitude as possible, and two vessels at least would be required. One could steam round the verge of the ice for weeks if desirable, and watch for a favourable opening of which to warn the other vessel. But the great matter at present is to decide whether Australia and England can cooperate in an important undertaking which will bring credit, and mayhap profit, to both. If there is any difficulty about contributing money, there are other ways in which the Mother Country could materially co-operate with the most enterprising of her colonies."

We have given our cordial assent to a proposal for scientific federation of British and American geologists with the view of laying a broad foundation of geological fact, classification, nomenclature, and representation which would ultimately be adopted by other countries, as far as local diversities and differences of language would permit. This proposal originated in a communication from Sir W. Dawson, of Montreal, to the president of the Royal Society in England, which was forwarded to us in a communication from the High Commissioner of Canada to our Agent-General. We regarded the proposal as of great

interest to geological investigation, and, as I have said, gave it our warmest support. In statistics we have had a remarkable paper from Mr. Johnston which occupied two whole meetings of the Society. title of the paper was "How far can the general death rate for all ages be relied upon as a comparative index of the health or sanitary condition of any community," and I would say in passing that the title only partly conveys an idea of what that excellent paper contains. Some of Mr. Johnston's conclusions were powerfully contested, but I feel sure that the more his paper is read and studied, and I have done my best to make it known far beyond the limits of Tasmania, it will be acknowledged to be a masterpiece of statistical analysis. (Hear, hear.) There is but one further item in our operations in the session now about to close to which I shall direct your aftention. I allude to Dr. Agnew's munificent contribution of £500 to be applied to a further experiment in acclimatising the salmon in Tasmania. (Cheers.) Since I last addressed you on this subject, the committee which was appointed to communicate with Sir Thomas Brady, who I hope will have visited our shores before we next meet, have written a long letter to him, giving him their views on the whole subject. I will not now repeat what I said at the last meeting, but I would suggest to anyone interested in this subject, that they should refer to the account of this meeting which appeared in The Mercury, of the 11th October, and which will, doubtless, in due time appear in the annual report of our proceedings. what I said then there is little to add, but what there is is full of encouragement to us to go on and prosper. Two specimens of salmonidae have since that date been received in the Museum. One was taken in a net in the saltwater at Port Cygnet, and sent to me by Mr. Kenny, who thought it different from any trout he had ever seen. The other was captured by myself with the rod at Victoria in the River Huon. The first weighed  $4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., and the judgment pronounced upon it by Mr. Ogilby, the distinguished icthyologist of Sydney, to whom it was sent for examination, is that it is a true salmo trutta having slight divergence towards the variety S. cambricus. The other, the one I caught, can be seen here. It weighs 29lb., was 35½in. long, and 26in. in girth, and viewed side by side with the ordinary trout the difference is most striking. I certainly congratulate myself in my good fortune in catching so noble a fish, the largest I believe yet caught in Tasmanian waters, and in being able to present it to the Museum. (Cheers.) Both of these are undoubtedly sea going fish, and in excellence for the table tread closely upon the heels of the Salmo salar. If they are Salmo trutta we have at least to boast that Tasmania produces by far the largest Salmo trutta in the world. If as some seem to think, these specimens are hybreds, then we must undoubtedly have the salmon here to produce them. It will be for the council to determine whether it might not be wise to send the fish I caught, which Mr. Morton has so successfully set up, to England to have a definite opinion pronounced upon it.

The very able paper we have heard to-night by Mr. Laurie, on "Common sense in education, being a brief survey of the methods of education and instruction in their bearing on the practical requirements of life." This opens up the great subject of technical education, and is too large and important a one to be discussed now. We all want more time to think it over, and we can only give Mr. Laurie our best thanks for his paper, and express our extreme pleasure and satisfaction that the Government is giving practical effect to the very excellent recomendations of the distinguished committee, of whom Mr. Laurie

was one, who inquired into the subject.

Well, gentlemen, I think we may fairly congratulate ourselves on the tale of work I have laid before you. In my remarks at the opening of the session I pointed out that I scarcely thought the public generally

realised how much they owe to societies of this sort, both in respect of the additions they make to the stock of general knowledge, and therefore to the amount of human happiness, and also in respect of the bearing both direct and indirect that their operations have in promoting industries, and in increasing the comforts of human existence. Since my connection with this Society I am more than ever convinced of these beneficial tendencies, and I ask you Tasmanians to cherish this Society as a powerful educator ia your midst. By means of the Press who so accurately report our proceedings, and to whom our kest thanks are due, our operations are known far beyond these four walls, and are read, I hope, by many with interest and profit, but we want more members. Death, alas! since our session commenced has removed one of our most valued contributors. I allude to the late Mr. Sprent, whose great loss was so feelingly referred to by several members at our July meeting. We want to increase our numbers. We want the young men to join. They will never regret doing so. We open to them new pleasures healthy and honourable, and new means of usefulness to their kind.

While much of the success of the Society depends upon each member doing his utmost to help forward its work, and we owe much to those gentlemen who have devoted so much of their time to the objects of this Society, I think a special tribute is due to our secretary, Mr. Morton—(cheers)—who spares himself no trouble, who during this session has issued a compilation of all the papers that have been read at the Society from 1841 to 1885, and whose enthusiasm stirs up all with whom he comes in contact to do, in homely phrase, "their level best" for the

Society

In bidding you farewell till April, I would say, don't let the time between this and then be lost to the Society. Its borders are so wide that there is room for receiving the work of all. Let every Fellow of the Society who has the necessary leisure devote himself to some branch of

investigation, and give us the result of his work.

Besides original work having special reference to Tasmania, there is much that may be done in bringing before our Society the recent work of kindred societies in similar directions in other places, which will be found in the reports of their proceedings which are sent to our library in exchange for ours. We ought to be abreast of the times, and instead of working in our own groove, which is necessarily narrow, we should take advantage of the labours of others and widen our knowledge, and papers showing what these labours have been would be very useful to our Society. I am satisfied if we act on these lines, having the great standby of such contributors as Mr. Saville-Kent, who, I hope, will continue to submit papers, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Bastow, and others whose original work would lend distinction to any Society, that our proceedings will be such as we can regard with every satisfaction, and that they wfil redound to the credit of this land in which we all, whether we are permanently or temporarily settled in it, take so justifiable a pride. (Cheers.)

The Hon. P. O. FYSH said there was one pleasure in which he was sure the whole of those present would join in congratulating the Society upon—that was that His Excellency took such a lively interest in all its meetings, and that he had continued to demonstrate an interest in the work committed to the Fellows during the whole of the past year. His Excellency would perceive that their meetings were attended by scientific men, professional men and commercial men. The young men had been referred to, and he thought the young men of this community were fairly represented in the Society, and he was very glad to know that the commercial men of the community were fairly represented, seeing in this fact that those connected with scientific pursuits were working with those engaged in professional pursuits, an indication of their association

outside. The culture of America was associated with Boston, and the commerce of America with New York, and it was said that Boston could not do without New York, and New York could not do without Boston. In the same manner the the Royal Society could not do without its commercial members and the commercial members could not do without the Royal Society. If science gave the commercial community any light as to the path of usefulness, commerce was sure to follow. He was very glad to see the interest Her Majesty's representative took in such a Society, the results of which were world-wide, as all benefited by the researches of science. If our young men would take an interest in its proceedings they would learn a higher culture, benefit by the high tone of the Society, and seek to be more useful men in the community. They could not do without culture, and looked to this Society to help to forward that culture without which the community could not hope to hold the position it should do. As a member of the Society he was glad to notice the valuable nature of the papers that had been delivered. The community, and the world at large, would see that Tasmania was not simply grovelling, but had higher pursuits, and that those who assembled from time to time in that room took an active interest in the papers that were contributed. The Society desired to congratulate itself on having a president who had taken such unflagging interest in its proceedings throughout the session, so he would ask the Fellows to join with him in congratulating themselves that His Excellency had presided over them, and to thank him for his address, and to rise and express their pleasure.

The members then rose and cheered.

The President: I thank you very much gentlemen.

## LIST OF ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY. NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

Annual Report of the Department of Mines, New South Wales, for the year 1886.—From the Department.

Annals and Magazines of Natural History—(Current Nos.)

Anuario del Observatorio Astronomico, Nacional para el. Año de, 1888, Mexico.—From the Department.

Bollettino della Sociétá Geografica Italiana, vol. xiii., September, 1887.— From the Society.

Bulletin de la Société Imperiale des Naturalistes de Moscow, No. 3, 1887.

-From the Society.

Bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, at Harvard College, Vol. xiii. No. 5, Preliminary Account of the Fossil Mammals from the White River Formation, contained in the Museum of Comparative Zoology. By W. B. Scott and H. F. Osborn. No. 1, Notes on the Taxodium distichium, or Bald Cypress. No. 2, on the Original Connection of the

Eastern and Western Coalfields of the Ohio Valley. By N. Shaler. Annual Report of the Curator of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, 1886-7.—From A. Agassiz.

Descriptive Catalogue of the Medusæ of the Australian Seas, in two parts. Part 1, Scyphomedusæ; part 2, Hydromedusæ. By R. V. Lenden-

feld.—From the Trustees of the Australian Museum.

Fifth Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Public Museum of the City of Milwauke, U.S., September to August, 1887.-From the Trustees.

Geological Magazines (Current Nos.)

Geology of the Vegetable Creek Tin Mining Field, New England District, N.S.W., with maps and sections. By T. W. E. David, B.A.—From the Mining Department.

History and Description of Mr. Tebutt's Observatory, Windsor, N.S.W.

By J. Tebutt.—From the Author.

Ibis, The. A quarterly journal of Ornithology, vol. v, Nos. 17 to 20,

1887.

Iconography of Australian Species of Acacia and Cognate Genera, Decade 1 to 8. By Baron F. Von Müeller, M.D., Etc.—From the Government.

List of the names and contributors to the first series, vols. i. to x. of the Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, from 1875 to 1885, with the title of and references to the papers and exhibits contributed by each.—From the Society.

Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, vol. ii., part

3.—From the Society.

Proceedings of the Canadian Institute, Toronto, third series, vol. v, Fasc, No. 1, October, 1887.—From the Society.

Report of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (Victorian

Branch), vol. v., part 2.—From the Society.

Report of the Board of Governors of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery of South Australia. 1887.—From the Department.

Reports of the Mining Registrars of the Goldfields of Victoria, Sept.,

1887.—From the Department.

Société Astronomique de France.—From the Society.

Sociédadé de Geographia de Lisbon, "Elogio Historico."-From the Society.

Statistics of the Colony of New Zealand, part 6, 1886.—From the

Department.

Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan, vol. xv., part 2.—From the

Transactions of the Seismological Society of Japan, vol. xi.—From the Society.

Verhandlungen der Gesellschaft Für Erdkunde Zu Berlin, Band xiv., Nos. 7-8.—From the Society. Victorian Naturalist, December, 1887.—From the Society.