JULY, 1902.

The monthly meeting of the Royal Society of Tasmania was held on the 8th of July at the rooms, Argyle-street. His Excellency the Governor (Sir A. E. Havelock, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G.), (president of the Society) presided.

The King's Illness.

His Excellency the Governor said:—As members of the Royal Society of Tasmania, of which Her Majesty the late Queen was, and His present Majesty King Edward VII. is, patron, it was fitting they should join in expressing the feelings of public satisfaction and happiness at the news received during the last few days of the successful recovery of His Majesty the King from an illness, the result of which was watched with so much anxiety a fortnight ago. (Applause.) There was one other matter of congratulation he should like to mention concerning one of the oldest members of the Royal Society—the honour which His Majesty had been pleased to confer upon their friend Sir Adye Douglas. (Applause.) He was so well known to all in Tasmania and Australia that any words of his as to Sir Adye Douglas's place in the community or his past history would be superfluous. The honour conferred upon him in his 87th year had given pleasure and satisfaction to them, and to all Tasmania. (Applause.)

Sir Adye Douglas briefly replied.

New Member.

Mr. Edmund Leolin Piesse, B.Sc., of New Town was elected a Fellow of the Society.

Proposed Retirement of the Queensland Colonial Botanist.

Mr. Rodway, member of the Council of the Royal Society of Tasmania, moved the following resolution,—"That this Society hears with sincere regret the intention of the Queensland Government to retire Mr. F. M. Bailey from the position of State Botanist. It would respectfully urge that if this cannot be avoided, it may at least be delayed until the completion of Mr. Bailey's valuable work, "The Queensland Flora."

The motion was seconded by Col. W. V. Legge, R.A., and carried unanimously.

Mr. E. A. Counsel, F.R.G.S., Surveyor-General of Tasmania, who was to have taken part in a discussion on "Forest Conservation," forwarded the following telegram from Launceston : —"Please apologise for my unavoidable absence from meeting of Royal Society. Hoped to have returned on Saturday night."

Papers.

"Notes on Unrecorded and other Minerals Occurring in Tasmania," by W. F. Petterd, C.M.Z.S., Lond. The writer, in the opening remarks of his paper, said: — The following notes, in conjunction with a paper upon the subject published in the proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania, 1897, embraces the work done to elucidate the mineralogy of the State since the publication of the "Minerals of Tasmania," 1896. They comprise many interesting substances of more recent discovery, including one, or perhaps two, which are quite new to mineralogical science. It will be found that above 40 species hitherto unknown as occurring in this island have been added to the already voluminous catalogue, and additional localities and associations are recorded for several previously known. An important feature is the record of several complete analyses of complex substances for which I am indebted to Mr. S. Pascoe, of the Magnet Silver Mining Co., and Mr. O. E. White, of Hobart, to whom I return my sincere thanks for their ready and valuable assistance. Such work is invariably a welcome addition to mineralogical investigation, and I am sure it will be duly appreciated by those interested in this field of inquiry. In many cases it is only by such means, coupled with a crystallographic character, that the specific identity can be obtained with reasonable certainty. It is almost needless to say that in this department much yet remains to be done before we can possess a comprehensive knowledge of the mineral known to occur in this State The list, with descriptions and localities, number 77 species, and will prove to be a most valuable addition to our knowledge of Tasmanian minerals.

Note on Eucalyptus linearis, Dehnhardt (a supposed Tasmanian species), by J. H. Maiden, F.L.S., Director, Botanic Gardens, Sydney. (Corresponding member):—

The author said he had recently received from the Imperial Natural History Museum of Vienna, a type specimen of Eucalyptus linearis, Dehnhardt, which has not been seen either by Bentham or Mueller. Usually a Mount Wellington, Tasmania, smooth-barked tree, closely related to E. amygdalina, Labill, is referred to Dehnhardt's species, which was described from a European seedling in 1829. The author describes the type, and expresses the opinion that the precise position of the plant described by Dehnhardt requires yet to be determined by Tasmanian botanists.

Mr. A. M. Lea, F.E.S., Government Entomologist, contributed a paper, entitled, "Notes on some remarkable Tasmanian Invertebrates." The writer said, under the above heading, he proposed from time to time to give notes on some remarkable Tasmanian insects, and probably other invertebrate forms of life. The notes, whenever possible, would be illustrated with sketches. The present description deals with one of the "Walking Stick" insects, being the first official record of the occurrence of the remarkable family of Phasmidæ in Tasmania. The specimen was found at Burnie, and presented to the Tasmanian Museum by Miss Dora Shoobridge, and will be known as Acrophylla tasmaniensis.

The Great Lake.

Colonel Legge furnished the maximum and minimum temperature at the north end of the Great Lake for the month of June, 1902, compiled by Mr. F. H. Archer, Police Station, North Great Lake. The maximum was 43 degrees on the 3rd, 5th and 24th, and the minimum 15 degrees, on the 26th. The mean temperature for the month was 35 degrees.

Forest Conservation.

A discussion took place on Mr. W. Heyn's and Mr. C. B. Target's paper on Forest Conservation.

Mr. L. Rodway spoke upon the papers at considerable length. Speaking of the apple trade, he advocated the registration of brands by the Government, and the publication in pamphlet form of results of sales. Otherwise he thought the industry would be able to take care of itself. The timber trade possessed greater difficulties, and to do much for it, the Government would have to take the whole management of it. But the Government might inquire if there was a sufficient quantity of timber to warrant the going in for a large export trade, and if there was, it would be within their province to find markets. It was hardly possible to establish an agricultural college in Tasmania at present, but there were such establishments already in Victoria, South Australia, and New South Wales, and scholarships in one of those colleges might be founded here. If, then, the scholars were numerous enough, we might find it worth while to establish a college of our own. Referring to Mr. Target's paper, he said that the oak in Tasmania had not been a success. There was a great deal to be done in planting stringy bark, which grew very rapidly. Button-grass plains were poverty-stricken—you got a foot of soil, and then came gravel.

Mr. A. O. Green said that he always compared this country with Norway: Norway, like Tasmania, is a poor country. It is mountainous, it has a broken coast line, it is largely covered with forests, but there the similarity ends. The forests of Norway produce small trees, not more than a foot to eighteen inches in diameter, and from which a plank cannot be obtained wider than nine inches, or longer than ten or twelve feet; and yet the Norwegians so prepare and classify their timber for market that it has a staple value throughout the civilised world, and is sent everywhere, including Tasmania—and the country reaps a profit of about a million pounds annually. Tasmania on the other hand, with her magnificent forests from want of the system and care that make the Norwegian industry so successful, reaps a merely nominal benefit from her much more valuable forests. Mr. Heyn's remedy for this state of affairs, summed up in one word, was education, and with this in general terms he fully agreed. Tasmanians who should know better may be found, who will run down Tasmanian timbers as worthless, whereas, if properly prepared for market, they are second to none in the world for the purposes for which they are suited. Again, people may be found in Tasmania who will stigmatise the science of forestry as a fad, and even in the present day may be found Tasmanians who will deride education, as applied to timber. Mr. Target had shown, very forcibly, the good that forests do to a country from simply existing. He went on to show that they profit several countries to the extent of upwards of a million per annum, when treated on sound commercial principles, and further pointed out how, by systematic planting, barren and profitless stretches of country might be profitably improved. There is no what is termed "theory" about this. Round our coasts there are plenty of places where our good land is being overwhelmed by the sand blown in from the sea; exactly the same thing has been overcome on the shores of the Bay of Biscay by planting pine trees. In the Bay of Biscay, not only has the

sand been stopped, and a profitable industry in turpentine established, but, owing to the fact that pine trees make vegetable soil more quickly than any other trees, the sandy wastes have been transformed into fertile land. In the same way in Denmark, by the planting of pines and other trees, heathy morasses, somewhat like our button-grass plains, have become a source of revenue from the timber, and, eventually, dairy farms adding greatly to the wealth of the country. If rightly managed, we have inexhaustible supplies of timber, superior to oak and ash, for which, were it properly placed upon the market, there would be an inexhaustible demand, at remunerative prices.

Mr. G. E. Moore, C.E., also offered some observations, and was followed by Mr. A. Mault

The discussion was adjourned till next meeting, and a vote of thanks to the readers of papers was passed.

The proceedings then terminated.

Colonel W. V. Legge said he had received a very important communication from Mr. F. H. Archer, residing at the Great Lake, dealing with the temperature of that part of Tasmania for the month of June of the present year, which he would read.

Police Station.
North Great Lake,
2nd July, 1902.

Colonel Legge,
Military Barracks,
Hobart.

Dear Sir.

I enclose herewith a record of the max. and min. temperatures for June.

Comparatively, June was very mild. The frosts were not nearly so severe as they were last year. The Great Lake is covered with about 2in. of ice, and the Little Lake 3in. But a thaw set in this morning, with a strong N.W. wind, and the ice is breaking up. We had about 18in. of snow during the disturbance "Braddon," which is rapidly disappearing. We had 6in. last year at the same date, and it lay about till the end of August. Rainfall for June, 1902, 7.985in.

There are still a number of little gulls about, but the ducks have wholly disappeared.

I am, dear sir,
Yours, truly,
F. H. ARCHER.

Max. and Min. Temperatures at North End, Great Lake, for the month of June, 1902:—

Date. 1902.		Temperature. Max.	Min.
June	1	44	30
,,	2	39	28
,,	3	48	32
,,	4	45	40
,,	5	48	29
,,	6	44	30
,,	7	44	39
,,	8	44	33
,,	9	45	34
,,	10	42	29
,,	11	44	26
,,	12	46	24
,,	13	43	21
,,	14	39	32
,,	15	41	32.5
,,	16	42	35
,,	17	39	33
,,	18	34	24
,,	19	37	30
,,	20	38	23
,,	21	38	22.5
,,	22	36	21.75
,,	23	44	18
,,	24	48	23
,,	25	39	13.5
,,	26	37	15
,,	27	44	23
,,	28	45	25
,,	29	45	21
,,	30	43	23

Mean for month, 35deg.

List of Works Presented to the Royal Society of Tasmania during the Month of July, 1902.

Journal of the Department of Agriculture of Victoria. From the Department.

Journal of the Straits Branch Royal Asiatic Society, No. 37, January, 1902. From the Society.

Journal of the Society of Arts (current Nos.) From the Society.

Journal of the Royal Anthropological Society of Australasia. From the editor.

Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia, Vol. XXVI. From the Society.

Insect Enemies of the Pine in the Black Hills Forest Reserve. An account of results of special investigations, with recommendations for preventing loss, by A. D. Hopkins, Ph.D. From the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Catalogue of Casts, Models, Photographs, and Restorations of fossil vertebrates. From the Department of Vertebrate Palæontology. American Museum of Natural History.

Hand-list of the Genera and Species of Birds, Vol. III. By R. Bowlder Sharpe, LL.D.

Catalogue of the Collection of Birds' Eggs in the British Museum, Vol. I. Ratitæ, Carinatæ (Tinamiformes, Lariformes), by E. W. Oates. Catalogue of the Fossil Fishes in the British Museum, Part IV., containing the Actinopterygian, Teleostomi, of the Suborders Isospondyli (in part), Ostariophysi, Apodes, Percessoces, Hemibranchii, Acanthopterygii, and Anacanthini, by A. S. Woodward, LL.D. Catalogue of the Lepidoptera, Phalænæ, in the British Museum, Vol. III. From the trustees of the British Museum.

Reports of the Evolution Committee of the Royal Society, Report I. Experiments undertaken by W. Bateson, F.R.S., and Miss Saunders. From the Society.

Calendar of the University of Sydney for the year 1902. From the University.

Geological Magazine. No. 456 N.S. Decade IV. No. VI., June, 1902. From the Society.

Annals and Magazines of Natural History, Vol. 9. No. 54, June, 1902. From the Society.

Monthly Review, No. 21, June, 1902.

The Athenæum, May, 1902.

Classified catalogue of an extensive and valuable collection of books, pamphlets, views, maps, and transactions of societies relating to Africa and African countries. Part III., July, 1902. From the publisher.

Fourth annual report of the Northern Tasmanian Anglers' Association. From the hon. secretary.

Catalogue of Indonesian Art. From Karl W. Hersemann.

Sitzung der Mathematisch —Naturwisissenschaftlichen. From the Society, Wien.

Monthly notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, Vol. LXII., No. 7, May, 1902. From the Society.

Record of the Geological Survey of New South Wales, Vol. III., Part II., 1902. From the Mines Department.

Copy of an old Mercator of 1706. From Mr. Thos. S. Read, Adelaide.

Atti della Reale Academia dei Lincei. From the Academy.

Boletein da Sociedade de Geographia de Lisboa. From the Society.

Acta Horti Petropolitani, Vol. XIX., Fasciculus 1 and 2. Flora Manchuria, Flora Korea, Lichenes Flora Rosiœ et regionum confinium Orientalium. From the Department of St. Petersburg.

Proceedings of the Royal Society, London, Vol. LXX., No. 460, May 461, June, 1902. From the Society.

Catalogue of Henry Sotheran and Co.'s Illustrated Catalogue of valuable books, beautiful old prints, and original drawings, 1902. From the publishers.

Scottish Geographical Magazine. From the Society.

Proceedings of the Washington Academy of Sciences. Papers from the Harriman Alaska Expedition, XXVIII., Hymenoptera, by W. H. Ashmead. From the Academy.

Katalog einer Sammlung von 923, Modellen in Bernbaumholz zur Elanterung der Krystallformen der Mineralien Katalog, No. 50. Petrographisches Praktikeem. Beschreibung einer Sammlung, Von 386. From Dr. Krantz.

Geographical Journal of England, Vol. XIX., No. 6. From the Society.

Geological Map of Victoria. From the Mines Department.

Victorian Naturalist, Vol XIX., No. 3, July, 1902. From the Society.

Gazette of Literature. A monthly classified list of new publications, London. From the publishers.