

Mr. Troup, D.A.C.G., said the soil along the coast of Barcelona, as in other parts of Spain, was very dry, and therefore in some degree perhaps different from that in Tasmania. Still, he knew it was very barren and useless, probably silicious and certainly not calcareous, or it would have been turned to some profitable use. He therefore thought our waste silicious lands would probably be very suitable for the Esparto.

Mr. Davies thought it was the duty of the Society to make further enquiries as to the product, the introduction of which might be of great benefit to the colony.

Mr. Gould agreed with Mr. Davies, and suggested that Mr. Barnard should be requested to obtain further information on the subject, which Mr. Barnard said he would be happy to do.

Mr. W. L. Dobson proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Krefft for the early copy of his very interesting pamphlet, and to the gentlemen who had read such interesting papers.

Mr. Stephens seconded the motion which was carried: and the votes of thanks conveyed to the gentlemen present by His Excellency.

A vote of thanks was also accorded to the donors of presentations.

PRESENTATION TO DR. AGNEW.

His Excellency the Governor said: Gentlemen, the ordinary business of the meeting being over, I am delighted to have the opportunity of closing it in a manner as agreeable to myself, as I believe it will be to every one present. I have been requested to convey to our Honorary Secretary a small token of the approbation of the Fellows, of the services which he has generally rendered to the society, and in recognition of his constant attention and care since he first entered upon the duties of the office. (Cheers.) All that has been done, all the valuable statistics that are laid upon the table every month, can only be collected, and arranged by much labor, which occupies time, and time which is extremely valuable to a man so constantly occupied as the Hon. Secretary is in the management of his own private affairs. Before Dr. Agnew undertook the office of Secretary, I believe these duties were performed by a paid officer, but that cost the society a very considerable amount, and our funds becoming diminished, we should have been unable to go on, had not Dr. Agnew come forward and undertaken the office. He had now performed the duty of the secretaryship for a period of seven years without remuneration, and it is known to all the Fellows, with how much care, attention, and courtesy he has performed it. I believe he enjoys the esteem and regard of all the members of the Society. I have much pleasure in handing to you, Dr. Agnew, a draft for £65, on behalf of the Fellows of this society, with a request that you will purchase a piece of plate, whatever you may like best, and that you will have engraved upon it the following inscription:—"Presented by the Fellows of the Royal Society of Tasmania, to James Wilson Agnew, Esq., M.D., as a token of their regard, and a mark of their appreciation of the valuable services rendered by him as Honorary Secretary of the Society. July, 1868.

His Excellency handed the cheque to Dr. Agnew amid cheers.

Dr. Agnew said: Your Excellency and Fellows of the Royal Society,—Even had I been more used than I am to speak in public I could scarcely have trusted myself to do so on such an occasion, and therefore hope you will excuse me if I read the few words which I have to say. The compliment which has just been conferred upon me is so great and so unexpected that I need not attempt to express the feelings, partly of pride, partly of misgiving which it has excited. To have gained the goodwill or approbation of a large and intellectual portion of his fellow citizens must be to anyone an unceasing source of satisfaction, and I can therefore truly say that nothing in public life has ever given me higher plea-

sure and gratification than your presentation of this splendid testimonial. I feel painfully, however, that my actual services have fallen far short of the value you have kindly put upon them, and, although I have at all times endeavoured to do what I could to promote the best interests of this society, and to keep up friendly relations with scientific bodies of a similar character in various parts of the world, I seem to have done so little, that I am conscious I owe the present compliment more to your kindness, than to any desert of mine. But if I have not been able to do as much as I could have desired, it has never, I think, been from want of will, and unless unforeseen circumstances arise to render it impossible, I shall still feel great pleasure in acting as heretofore, until, at least, the services of some more efficient volunteer may be secured. I now beg to return my warmest thanks to all those who have interested themselves in the present movement. With the sum now placed at my disposal I shall, agreeably to your request, procure some article of value, on which I shall feel great pride in having engraved the inscription you have provided; and, I need scarcely add, in future years I shall rarely look upon it without being reminded of the present meeting, and of many a pleasant hour devoted to the service of the Royal Society of Tasmania.

The proceedings then terminated.