REPORT.

THE Session of 1868 was opened on the 24th March, by a paper from Dr. (now Baron) F. Von Müeller, Ph.D., F.L.S., &c., on the Phytography of Tasmania, which deserves especial notice for its intrinsic value, and from the fact that it was the only one received from our corresponding members. The following papers were also read at the monthly meetings:—"Some continued observations on the variable Star Argus and the surrounding Nebulæ," by F. Abbott, Esq., F.R.A.S.; "Observations on Desmidiaceæ, with list of species found in Tasmania," by E. D. Harrop, Esq.; "Remarks on Mr. Krefft's notes on the Fauna of Tasmania," by Mr. Allport, Esq., F.L.S., F.Z.S.; "On the cultivation of Esparto Grass for the manufacture of paper and the establishment of a paper mill in Tasmania," by J. Barnard, Esq.; "Spectrum Analysis and its application to Science," by F. Abbott, Esq., F.R.A.S.; "On a specimen of chrome iron ore from the West Coast of Tasmania, with an analysis," by W. Knight, jun., Esq.; "Reasons for introducing the Perch into Tasmania," by M. Allport, Esq., F.L.S., F.Z.S.

The Microscopical Soirée, which was held in April, was as much appreciated as usual by the

numerous visitors who were present.

The Meteorological Abstracts of the Observations furnished from the various stations in and round the island, for the last two years, are in course of compilation, and will, we expect, be published before the close of the current half year.

Our papers and proceedings for the past Session

have been forwarded to various scientific societies and individuals in England, America, the neighbouring Colonies and elsewhere.

COUNCIL.

No vacancy has occurred during the year. The required list according to rule XXXII., as amended at the last Annual General Meeting, has been exhibited in the Library for the last fortnight.

FINANCE.

It is with extreme regret that the Council have to request the special attention of the Fellows to the course taken last year in reference to the grant-in-aid. This has been so inimical to the interests of the Society that it would appear to have been partly done through inadvertence, as no saving to the revenue of the colony was effected by it.

Since the year 1853 the Museum has always received from Government £200 per annum. But now, when the expenses have greatly increased, through the steadily increasing number of specimens, and when we consequently feel the greatest difficulty in keeping within our income, an entire quarter of the grant has been withdrawn and added to the amount voted for the gardens.

Our total income (viz., Government grant £150 to Museum, £450 to gardens, subscriptions £123, and sale of plants £86 1s. 7d.) has been £809 1s. 7d., which with £30 12s. 0d. in the hands of the Superintendent of the Gardens for payment of current expenses, £19 10s. 0d., arrears of subscriptions received since 31st December, and about

£30 still due, will give a total of £889 3s. 7d. The total expenditure and liabilities amount to £953 2s. 8d. leaving to our debit a balance of £63 19s. 1d.

As to the liabilities referred to, it may be mentioned that they are mainly due to a claim of £59 5s. 2d. from Messrs. Orger and Meryon, of London, on an account due some years ago, but which had been lost sight of from the fact of that firm having retired from business. A part of the claim has been paid off during the year.

GARDENS.

Three hundred new plants have been added to our collection during the year, several of which are of great interest; on the other hand, it is to be regretted that owing to the unusually protracted drought, and an insufficient supply of water, many have died during the last few months. All the annuals have suffered severely, very few of the spring-sown having germinated, and such as did so, were dried up before flowering.

The beautiful white water lily (Nymphæa alba) has become established in the reservoir, where it has produced upwards of a dozen of its pretty blossoms during the season. Nuphar lutea also flourishes in the same situation, and will, doubtless,

blossom next season.

During the past year two acres of ground, a portion of which is intended for the extension of the Pinetum, have been trenched, and many new and interesting pines are ready for planting as soon as the ground is sufficiently prepared for their reception.

The approximate number of visitors during the year was 20,624. As, however, the bye-law

requiring visitors to sign their names has been relaxed, the entrance door is now left open, and so many persons enter unobserved, that the actual number probably exceeds that given.

MUSEUM.

Considerable progress has been made in labelling and arranging the various collections during the year. Mr. Gould has presented several additional specimens procured during the geological survey of the Island, and has also devoted considerable time to the general arrangement of the Geological

Department.

The whole of the Tasmanian birds, &c., have been removed from the general Museum, and rearranged in the large room upstairs, which had been fitted up for the purpose as mentioned in last report. This room will be entirely devoted to the exhibition of Tasmanian specimens, and the arrangement will, it is hoped, be completed during the year. Skeletons of many indigenous animals have been prepared, and are now ready for articulating. A large skeleton of the blackfish (Orca sp.) has been prepared, articulated and mounted by the Curator, Mr. Roblin, and is a great acquisition to the Museum.

A few additions have been made to the Conchological collection, for which we are in-

debted to the liberality of Mr. Legrand.

Exchanges have been made with the Museum of the South Australian Institute (Adelaide), and further transactions of a similar character, advantageous to both Societies, will no doubt be continued.

The number of visitors has been 6836.

STATEMENT of the Funds of the ROYAL SOCIETY for the Year 1868.

EXPENDITURE.	Lalance overthewn at Commercial Bank, as per statement 40 11 3 for 1867	Per cent. on £123 6 3 0 Papers to Members 6 3 0 in honor of Visit of Prince 112 6 onery	MUSEUTO-Curatory Salary MUSEUTO-Curatory Salary Attendant's Wages Insurance Purchase oi, and preparing Specimens Water Rate Fuel and Light Ref. Specimens Water Rate Ref. Specimens Water Rate Water Ra	Cash. Wine, &c. c. of Specimens. Salary of Superintendent. Labourers, &c. of Hittor.	::::::	Audited and found correct, January 28th, 1869, FRANCIS BUTLLER, } Auditors.
EIPTS.	Annual Subscriptions from 76 Members	eds of Sale of Plants, Fruit, &c. 86 1 7 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17		01.7 46894	70n 68 or payment	s of, since received.

BOOKS PURCHASED & PRESENTED DURING 1868.

[Books presented marked thus *.]

Arts, Journal of Society of, Vol. 15, Parts 779 to 782; Vol. 16, Part 783 to 832, October 25th, 1867 to October 30th, 1868.

Arts, Society of, Transactions, 1866-7. 1 Vol. Bound.
Athenæum, Parts 478 to 489, Oct., 1867 to Sept., 1868.

*Acclimation, Soc. Imp. D'. Bulletin Mensuel, Tome 3, Nos. 2—12; Tome
4, Nos. 1—9. From the Society.

*Auriferous Drifts in Australia, by "Research." From the Author.
*Association, British, Report of, 1866. From the Association.
*Acclimatisation Society of New South Wales, Report for 1868.

*Builder, The, Nos. 202 to 212, Oct., 1867 to Aug., 1868. From Dr. Agnew. Botanical Works of the late Robt. Browne. Vol. 2. Ray Society. *Batman, John, Founder of Colony of Victoria, Life of. By J. Bonwick,

F.R.G.S. From the Author.
*College, King's, London, Prospectus of, 1867. From Professor Tennant. Conchologia Iconica. Parts 268 to 271.

*Chemische Untersuchung der Rinde von Petalostigma quadrilocular. By C. Franco. From Dr. F. Von Müeller, F.L.S.

*Cyclone, West India, 1867. By J.R. Eastman, United States' Navy. From F. Abbott, Esq., F.R.A.S.

*Desmidiaceæ, Observations on Tasmanian. From the Author, E. D. Harrop,

*Exhibition, Maritime of Havre, Prospectus, 1868.

*_____ of Paris, 1867. Artisans' Report on, 1867. From Dr. Milligan.
*Esparto Grass, on the Cultivation of, for the Manufacture of Paper, and the
Establishment of a Paper Mill in Tasmania. By J. Barnard, Esq. From the Author.

Florist and Pomologist, Nos. 71 and 72 for 1867. Nos. 1 to 10 for 1868. *Fisheries, Salmon, England and Wales, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th Annual Report of Inspectors of Ditto. Oyster and Mussel Fisheries, Report Board of Trade, 1867. Deep Sea and Coast Fisheries, Ireland, Report of Commissioners, 1866. Irish Fisheries, Report of Special Commissioners, 1866. Oyster Fisheries, Return to Order of House of Commons, 1867.

From H. M. Government. *Fauna of Tasmania, Notes on, by G. Krefft, Esq., F.L.S., C.M.Z.S., &c.

From the Author.

*Highlands, Leaves from the Journal of Our Life in. From Her Majesty the Queen.

Intellectual Observer, Nos. 70, 71, 72. (The title of this periodical has been changed to that of "The Student.")

Nos. 133 to 137. — of Agriculture, Nos. 18 to 24. (Title changed to that of "The Country Gentleman's Magazine.")

—, Quarterly, of Science, Nos. 17 to 20, Jaa. to Oct., 1868.
—s of House of Assembly, Tasmania. Vols. 11 and 13. From H.M.

Government.

*Length, Comparisons of Standards of, 1868. By Col. Sir R. James, R.E. From the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for War.

*Military Surgery, being Circular No. 6 of Surgeon General's Office, Washington, 1866. From United States' Government. Magazine, Country Gentleman's (Late Journal of Agriculture), Vol. 1, Nos. 1,

2, 3, 4, July to Oct., 1868.

*Meteorological Observations made at Sydney, New South Wales. From G. B. Smalley, Esq., B.A., Cantab., F.R.A.S., &c. Monthly Tables for
1868.
* taken at Windsor, New South Wales, from 1863 to 1866 inclusive. From J. Tebbutt, Jun., Esq. * for Hobart Town. From F. Abbott, Esq.,
TRAS
*
* for Swansea. From Dr. Story.
Kent's Group, Mount Nelson, and South Brun. From the Hobart
Town Marine Board. Natural History, Annals and Magazine of, Vol. 20, Nos. 119, 120; Vol. 1, (fourth series), Nos. 1 to 6; Vol. 2, Nos. 7 to 10. Nov., 1868 to Oct.,
1869.
*Naturwissenchaftlichen vereine, Abhandlungen herausgegeben vom zu Bremen, 1 Bd., 2 Heft; 4 Bd., and 5 Bd. From the Author, Dr. Sonder, Sec. to Natural History Society, Hamburgh, per Dr. F. Müeller, F.L.S., &c.,
&c., Melbourne.
*Natural History Society, Hamburgh. Ubersicht der Aeinter, 1865. From the same.
*Notes and Oueries No. 1, Jan., 1868.
*New Zealand, its Physical Geography, Geology, and Natural History, by Dr. Hochstetter. From New Zealand Government.
*Naturgeschichte, Archive fur, No. 6, 1865; Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 1866; Nos. 1, 2, 3, 1867.
*New Zealand, Statistics of, 1866. From New Zealand Government. *Oyster Culture, Pamphlet on, by J. E. Calder, Esq., Surveyor-General.
From the Author. *Prince Consort, His Royal Highness the, Early Days of, 1868. Presented
by Her Majesty the Queen. Pterlography, Nitzschs. Ray Society, Vol. for 1866.
*Perch, Reasons for Introduction of, into Tasmania.
*Reports on Materials for a Medical and Surgical History of the American Rebellion, being Circular No. 6 of Surgeon-General's Office, War De- partment, Washington, United States. From American Government.
*Report on Epidemic Cholera and Yellow Fever in the United States' Army, 1868, being Circular No. —, Surgeon-General's Office, 1868, Washington. From the same.
*Report. South Australian Institute, 1867—8.
*Schriften der Koniglichen Physikalisch okonomischen Gesellschaft, 2, Nos. 1865, 2 Ditto, 1866. *Society, Royal of Victoria, Transactions and Proceedings of, Part 2, Jan.,
1863. From the Society.
*Student, The (late Intellectual Observer), Nos. 1 to 9, February to October, 1868.
*Society, Geological and Polytechnic, of West Riding of Yorkshire, Report for 1867.
*——— Royal, of London, Proceedings of, Vol. 14, Nos. 78, 79; Vol. 15, Nos. 80 to 93, inclusive. From the Society.
* Zoological of London, Part 3, 1866; Parts 1 and 2, 1867. * Zoological of London, Vol. 6, Part 6, Transactions.
Osteology of Sperm Whale (Physeter macrocephalus) *——— Linnean, Proceedings of, Vol. 9, Nos. 35 to 39, Zoology; Vol. 9,
*—— Nos. 39 to 42, Botany. *—— Geological, Quarterly Journal of, Vol. 23, Parts, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Nos. 89 to 93.
*, List of 1867.
*——, Royal Geographical, Proceedings of, Vol. 11, Nos. 1 to 6; Vol. 12, No. 1.
*
*, Slip of Meeting of March, 1868.

*Osteology, Royal Asiatic, Journal of, Vol. 2, Part 2.

*——, Royal of Victoria, Vol. 9, Part 1, 1868.

*——, Acclimatisation, of New South Wales, 1867.

*——, Leeds Literary and Philosophical, Report 1867—8.

*Star Variable, \(\eta \) Argus, Observations on, by F. Abbott, Esq., F.R.A.S., &c. From the Author.

*Spectrum Analysis and its Application to Science. By the same. *Statistical Register of Victoria, 1855.

*______, Notes of Progress of, 1835 to 1867.

*Summary, 1865.

*_______ Summary, 1865.

*Statistics of Victoria, 1867. Part 1, "Population." Part 2, "Accumula-tion." Also Parts 3 and 4. From W. H. Archer, Esq., Registrar-General, Victoria.

*Tasmania, Notes on Fauna of, (3 copies), by G. Krefft, Esq., F.L.S., C.M.Z.S., &c. From the Author.

*Technologist, Vol. 1, New Series, Nos. 4 to 12. From the Editor.

LIST OF OBJECTS PRESENTED TO THE MUSEUM DURING 1868.

Allport, M., Esq., F.L.S., F.Z.S.—Specimens of Fish (Galaxias sp.), from Great Lake, Tasmania; Native Freshwater Perch; English Perch, bred in the colony from ova deposited this year; specimen of young Sawfish (Pristis); a young Opossum from the Pouch.

Allison, Mr., Oatlands.—Two black Magpies (Strepera fuliginosa).

Agnew, Dr.—Model of a Moccasin, by — Beaumont, Esq. Browne, His Excellency Col. T. Gore, C.B.—A specimen of the Artificial Stone of which the new Wesleyan Church at Launceston is built. A Fossil from Sandstone.

Browne, Mrs. T. Gore. - Model of the Ohyawai Pah, Bay of Island District, New Zealand, in the attack on which 127 British soldiers were killed

or wounded in five minutes on the 1st July, 1845.
Boyd, J., Esq., Port Arthur.—Two Black Cockatoos (Calyptorynchus xanthonotus); Skull and part of Skeleton of young Black Whale cleaned. Buckland, J., Esq.—Two English Perch (Perca fluviatilis); a beautiful specimen of the Argonaut (Argonauta tuberculosa), from Kent's

Group, Bass's Straits.
Cotton, F., Esq., junr.—A Lizard.
Cook, H., Esq., Fac-Similes of the Warrants for the Execution of Mary Queen of Scots (1587), and of Charles I. (1648); also one of the "Act for establishing the Coronation Oath," 1689; and a Collection of Bulletins of the French Army, 1812 and 1815.
Clarke, Mr. R., ship "Derwent Hunter."—Eye of Sperm Whale (dried).
Collis, Mr., Recherche Bay.—An Eagle.
Crowthou Dr. The Eight And Land Bay.

Crowther, Dr.—Two Fish from Lady Elliott's Island.

Calvert, C., Esq.—A small collection of Shells from King's Island.

Dennett, Mr. J., Campbell-street-One Silver Coin (2-dime), United States; one Twopenny piece, George III.; two Copper Coins; a small Medal; an Esquimaux Dress from Behring's Strait.

Downing, Mrs., Battery Point.—Specimen of Squid, and a Scorpion with 20

young ones. Dry, Sir R., Col. Secretary.—Specimen of Arfvedsonite, from Swan Island, with report of Assay.

Forster, J., Esq.—Skull of an Aborigine, picked up at Brady's Look Out, Arthur Lakes.

Fenton, Miss. - A young Diamond Snake (Hoplocephalus superbus.)

Flexmore, O., Esq.-A Lizard, 13 Pebbles of Quartz, &c., and an American

Gellibrand, G., Esq.—Sample of Coal from Grey River, New Zealand.

Gellibrand, W. A. B., Esq.—Two recent specimens of the Native Tiger (Thylacinus cynocephalus); a Snake (young specimen of Hopolocephalus

Graves, J. W., Esq.—A Partridge (Perdix cinerea).

Huston, Dr.—A Cap formed from husk of Cocoa Nut, from Panama.
Hull, H. M., Esq.—A Whip Snake (Hoplocephalus coronoides), and two
Lizards; a young Black Snake (Hoplocephalus curtus); two Iguanas (Cyclodus nigroluteus, Krefft).

Harburgh, Mr.—A Hermit Crab.

Joseph, Mr. G., Single Hill.—A Coot (Fulica Australis).

Lord, R. D., Esq., Oatlands.—A Pair of Mountain Ducks (Casarca tadomoides).

Lovett, W., Esq.—A Diamond Bird (Pardalotus punctatus); and a Mountain Thrush (Oreocincla lunulata).

Linley, G. W., Esq., Oatlands.—A Chestnut-faced Owl (Strix castanops).
Legrand, Mr.—Specimen of Native Paper from Java.
Maning, A. H., Esq.—A White Hawk.
Moore, J. A., Esq., New Norfolk.—A Coot (Fulica Australis).
Meredith, Mrs. C.—Fifty Specimens (30 varieties), Algæ, &c., from Prosser's

Bay.

McDowell, Mr., Long Bay.—Two Centipedes from West Indies.

Norris, Mr. W., Huon.—Nest of Hymenopterous Insect, taken from middle

of the limb of a tree.

Oldham, Mr. T.—A Spur-winged Plover (Lobivanellus lobatus).

Oldham, Mr. E.—A Half-penny, William and Mary; and a half-farthing,

George IV.

George IV.

Officer, Hon. R.—A Platypus (Ornithorynchus anatinus.)

Price, W. H., Esq.—A Gannet (Sula Australis).

Petterd, Mr. W. F., jun.—21 varieties Tasmanian Shells, viz.: 10 Land, 2 Freshwater, 9 Marine.

Rex, Mr. George W.—A Grebe (Podiceps poliocephalus).

Roberts, H. L., Esq.—A War Dress from Pleasant Island.

Smith, J. L., Esq.—A curious Fish, found on beach at Table Cape, Tasmania.

Sharland, Miss.—A Kingfisher (Aleyone azurea).

Salmon Commissioners.—A young Salmon Trout (Salmo trutta), found dead in the breeding ponds, River Plenty.

Wise, Mr. T.—Skull of Seal.

Williams, Mr., Sandy Bay.—Egg cases of Sting Ray.
Waterhouse, F. G., Esq., on the part of the Trustees of the South Australian Institute Museum, Adelaide.—91 specimens (55 species) South Australian Birds.

Wintle, Mr. S. H.-Nest of Mason Wasp.

Young, Mr. J., Glenorchy.—A Petrel; a Crab from Kangaroo Point; a Grebe (Podiceps poliocephalus); specimen of Hippocampus; a small shark.

PLANTS AND SEEDS RECEIVED AT ROYAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS, **DURING 1868.**

January 8th. - From Messrs. Taylor and Sangster, Nurserymen, Melbourne. -Box containing 24 Dahlias.

January 22nd.—From Dr. McCarthy, New Norfolk.—26 papers seeds received from Europe.

February 18th.—From Mr. C. Wren, Remuera, New Zealand.—Case containing 82 plants.

February 24th.—Mr. T. C. Carey, Western Australia.—16 Packets seeds. March 20th.—From Mr. J. Harris, Nurseryman, Melbourne.—Case containing 47 Plants.

April 11th.—From Mr. R. Henderson, Nurseryman, Sydney.—Case containing

21 Plants.

April 18th.—From Mr. C. F. Creswell.—64 packets seeds from England. May 15th.—From Messrs. Taylor and Sangster.—Case containing 43 plants.

May 16th.—From Mr. T. C. Carey, Western Australia.—47 packets seeds.
May 16th.—From Mr. T. C. Carey, Western Australia.—47 packets seeds.
May 25th.—From Botanic Gardens, Ceylon.—42 packets seeds.
June 12th.—From Botanic Gardens, Melbourne.—Case containing 36 plants.
June 20th.—From Botanic Gardens, Sydney.—Case containing 36 plants.
June 26th.—From Rev. G. Clarke.—Two cases containing collection New Zealand Ferns.

July 11th.—From Mr. J. Harris, Melbourne.—43 plants, 19 various Scions. July 16th.—From Dr. J. Milligan, London.—37 packets seeds, distributed by London Horticultural Society.

July 20th.-From Mr. R. Henderson, Sydney.-Box containing 17 plants. August 12th.—From Mr. William Knight,—About 10 varieties New Zealand

August 21st.—From A. Verschaffelt, Ghent, Belgium,—Box containing 391 packets seeds and 21 collections flower seeds.

September 1st.—From Mr. M. Allport.—Plant Nuphar Lutea.

September 19th.—From Melbourne Botanic Gardens.—Two cases containing 110 plants.

October 15th.—From Mr. C. T. Wren, Remuera, New Zealand.—4 plants Cvathea.

November 15th.—From Lieut. Howat.—Collection New Zealand seeds. November 21st.—From Mr. J. Harris, Melbourne.—Case containing 13 plants. December 4th.—From Dr. F. Mueller, Botanic Gardens, Melbourne.—8 packets seeds.

December 15th.—From Dr. F. Mueller, 9 specimens palm-seeds.

F. ABBOTT, Jun.,

Superintendent R. S. Gardens.

PLANTS AND SEEDS SENT FROM THE ROYAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS DURING 1868.

January 25th, per "Wagoola."—To Ambroise Verschaffelt, Ghent, Belgium, 3 large plants, Dicksonia Antartica. February 18th.—To A. Verschaffelt, per Windward.—10 small plants,

Dicksonia Antarctica.

February 19th.—To Mr. J. Harris, Nurseryman, Melbourne.—Case containing 63 plants, 74 varieties bulbs, 50 packets seeds.

March 17th.—To Mr. R. Henderson, Nurseryman, Sydney.—134 varieties

bulbs.

March 25th.—Messrs. Taylor and Sangster, Nurserymen, Melbourne.—133 varieties bulbs, 29 packets seeds.

March 25th.—Messrs. Handasyde and Co., Melbourne.—70 varieties bulbs, 62

packets seeds.

March 26th.—To Dr. R. Schomburgh, Botanic Gardens, Adelaide, 133 varieties bulbs, 29 packets seeds.

April 13th, per Harrowby.—To A. Verschaffelt.—12 plants Dicksonia Antarctica.

April 22nd.—To Messrs. Taylor and Sangster, Melbourne.—One case containing 40 plants.

April 28th.—To Mr. R. Henderson, Sydney.—Collection seeds.

June 17th.—To Messrs. Taylor and Sangster Packet bulbs.								
July 30th.—To Mr. C. T. Wren, Remuera, New Zealand.—55 plants, 7	75							
varieties bulbs.								
August 8th.—To Mr. R. Henderson, Sydney.—24 plants, 8 varieties cutting	s.							
October 7th.—To the Botanic Gardens, Melbourne.—Packet seeds.								
November 2nd.—To Mr. J. Dickinson, Port Arlington, Victoria.—30 varieties								
succulents.								
November 2nd.—Mr. C. F. Creswell.—Collection seeds.								
December 16th.—His Excellency Colonel Gore Browne.—180 packets Austr	2.							

F. ABBOTT, Jun.,

Superintendent R. S. Gardens.

PLANTS SUPPLIED FOR DECORATION OF PUBLIC PLACES DURING 1868.

April 29th.—For decoration of the grounds of Cascade Invalid Depôt.—40 plants.

August 7th.—For decoration of the Asylum for Insane, New Norfolk.—82

plants.

lian seeds.

F. ABBOTT, Jun., Superintendent R. S. Gardens.

TENCH FISH SUPPLIED FROM THE ROYAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS DURING THE YEAR 1868.

August 11th.	—To	Mr	. Hi	ddles	tor	ie, Ne	lson	, Ne	$\mathbf{w} \mathbf{Z} \epsilon$	ealan	d		•••		7
October 23rd.	—T	οJ.	w.	Grav	es,	Esq.		•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		•••	17
Total			•••	•••	•••		.								24
							107	ADD	OTT	т.	***				

F. ABBOTT, JUN.,

Superintendent R. S. Gardens.