

## ROYAL SOCIETY.

AUGUST, 1864.

The monthly evening meeting of the Society was held at the Museum, on Tuesday the 9th August. Captain F. R. Chesney, R.E., in the chair.

Among the Fellows present were Dr. Agnew, Hon. Secretary, Dr. Hall, Lieut. Seddon, R.E., Messrs. M. Allport, J. Allport, F. Abbott, sen., F. Abbott, jun., H. L. Roberts, J. G. Crouch, W. Johnston, C. Gould, G. P. Adams, R. Young, T. Johnston, &c. &c.

The following returns were laid on the table :—

1. Visitors to Museum during July, 466.
2. Ditto to Gardens do, 1,178.
3. Plants supplied during July :—  
To J. J. Stutzer, Esq., Melbourne, 5,000 mulberry plants.  
To Mr. C. Diehl, Dunedin, one bundle of scions, 24 plants and 21 papers of seeds.

For decoration of grounds of Queen's Orphan Asylum, 218 plants, and 1,000 white mulberry ditto.

To Colonial Hospital, 14 bulbs, 45 plants, and 20 papers of seeds.

4. Seeds received :—

From Mrs. H. Smith, 24 papers of seeds from Mauritius.  
From Col. Crawford, 2 cones of cedar of Lebanon (*Cedrus Deodora*), and seeds of a beech.

From W. Archer, Esq.,—Seeds of the "Waratah" (*Telopea truncata*), and of the "Celery topped Pine" (*Phyllocladus rhomboidalis*), grown in the garden at Cheshunt.

From Mr. T. J. Johnston—Twenty-two varieties of seeds collected by Capt. T. J. Brown on the coasts of Siam and Cochin China.

5. Tench supplied :—Mr. Wilson, 12.

6. Periodicals received :—The usual.

#### Meteorological Returns.

1. Hobart Town, from F. Abbott, Esq.
  - a. Table for July.
  - b. Summary and analysis of observations for July.
2. Swansea, from Dr. Story.
  - a. Table for June.

The SECRETARY read the usual monthly analysis of the Meteorological Observations, together with a health report by E. S. Hall, Esq.

The presentations to the Museum were as follows :—

1. Specimen of "Soap Wood," from Peaked Island, Gulf of Siam. Presented by Capt. Browne.
2. A collection of Geological specimens from Swanport. Presented by Miss M. Amos.
3. A necklace made (in imitation of coral) with seeds of *Pittosporum bicolor*, or "Waddie Wood," collected by Mrs. John Sherwin, at Caverswall, near Bothwell. Presented by I. Sherwin, Esq., M.H.A.
4. Specimen of *Sphoceria* sp. from New Zealand. Presented by Captain Chesney, R.E.
5. Prussian copper coin. Presented by H. M. Hull, Esq.
6. A sixpence of George III. Presented by Miss Nicholas.
7. Minute of Home Government on Colonial Hospitals and Lunatic Asylums. Presented by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.
8. A white opossum. Presented by Mr. W. H. Coe.
9. A small jade axe from New Zealand. Presented by Mr. Pitt.

Mr. M. ALLPORT having reported that the salmon and trout in the breeding ponds were progressing in a perfectly satisfactory manner read a paper on the "Food of the Salmon in Tasmanian Seas and Rivers."

Mr. Gould exhibited a map, geologically colored, of a part of the County of Dorset, and gave a brief description of the distribution and extent of the more important formations. He commented on the absence of the carboniferous formation, and the abundance of Granitic and older Palæozoic rocks. In speaking of the expansions of semi-waste low land bordering the coast, he referred to a tufaceous limestone which crops out in thin ledges along the sand banks which form part of the tertiary deposits, and may be anticipated

to hold fossils; he contrasted these with the deposits at Table Cape and Macquarie Harbor, and cited them as showing that the recent general elevation of the island had been greater upon the northern than on the southern side. After pointing out the courses of more important ranges, he gave a short account of the fertile basaltic areas of Scott's new country, &c. ; he also alluded to the efforts that had been made to discover gold in the neighborhood of Nine Mile Springs, and the Devil's Den, referring more especially to the latter locality as exhibiting gullies of some promise, and pointing out that the work hitherto performed had been perfectly insufficient to afford any test as to the existence of gold, only a few men having been employed, and the work performed by them having been, in part, ineffective, from an injudicious selection of the spot tried.

A vote of thanks having been accorded to Mr. M. Allport, and Mr. Gould, and also to the donors of the various presentations, the meeting broke up.

