

MAY, 1872.

The monthly evening meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, the 14th May, M. Allport, Esq., in the chair.

R. J. Lucas, Esq., who had previously been nominated by the Council, was elected by ballot as a Fellow of the Society.

The SECRETARY, Dr. Agnew, submitted the usual returns for the past month as follows :—

1. Visitors to Museum, 1,100.
2. Ditto to Gardens, 1,771.
3. Plants received at, and sent from, Gardens.
4. Leafing, &c., of a few standard plants in Royal Society's Gardens.
5. Books and periodicals received.
6. Presentations to Museum.

Meteorological Returns—

1. Hobart Town, from F. Abbott, Esq., table, &c., for April.
2. Westbury, from F. Belstead, Esq., tables for March and April.
3. Swanport, from Dr. Story, tables for February and March.
4. Melbourne, from R. J. L. Ellery, Esq., printed tables for February.
5. Sydney, from H. C. Russell, Esq., B.A., ditto.
6. New Zealand, from the Government, tables for November.

The SECRETARY read Notes on the Meteorology and Mortality of the Hobart Town Registration District during the month of April, 1872, by E. Swarbreck Hall.

The presentations to the Museum were as follows :—

1. From J. Whitehead, Esq., M.H.A., specimen of the Australian Egret, (*Herodias alba*.)
2. From J. Macleanachan, Esq., M.L.C., a specimen of the "Green Leek" Parrakeet of New South Wales (*Polytelis barrabandi*.)
3. From Mr. J. Watson, Muddy Plains, a pair (M. and F.) of Widgeon, or White-eyed Ducks (*Nyroca Australis*.)
4. From Dr. Huston, New Norfolk, a pair of Paradise Ducks of New Zealand.
5. From Mr. G. Paul, a mass of drift conglomerate, from near Bridgewater.
6. From Revd. H. D. Atkinson, Two specimens of Echini from Three Hut Point.
7. From Mr. Manion, specimen of Copper Pyrites from Adelaide.
8. From W. Hodgson, Esq., M.H.A., Burnside, a specimen of the Native Bread.
9. From Mr. Aldred, curiously shaped Fungus from Watchorn's Hill.
10. From Mr. Simpson, a Butterfly Gurnard.
11. From Mr. Maning, a ditto ditto.
12. From Mr. G. Everett, Cape Barren Island, per Mr. Legrand, curious abnormal growth of Horse's Hoof from Preservation Island, Bass's Straits. (No particulars furnished with this specimen.)
13. From J. Barnard, Esq., Catalogue of Agricultural Exhibition, New South Wales, 1872; six specimens of auriferous conglomerate from Rouse's Paddock gold diggings, Guntawang, Mudgee, New South Wales; specimen of Auriferous Quartz from ditto; 2 specimens of Sandstone with dendrites; sample of Gum of an indigenous forest tree of New South Wales.
14. From Mr. Conrad Sidelin, 250 Danish coins (silver and copper.)
15. From Mr. Wickborg, skin of a Toucan from Brazil.
16. From Captain Williams, a Bittern (*Botaurus Australis*), from East Coast, Tasmania.

Mr. E. C. NOWELL read a paper on Political Economy. The author threw out some suggestions as to the education of our youth, which, if carried out, would, he thought, be of great practical value, especially to those who in future might be called upon to take a part in the work of Government. Touching the labour question, he indicated certain arrangements which might be effected, and which he thought would be of mutual benefit to employers and employed, &c.

No discussion ensued, as the members were obliged to proceed to the Microscopical Exhibition which was being held in the Museum, a detailed report of which appeared in *The Mercury* of the 15th inst.

The Microscopical meeting was largely attended by visitors (introduced by members) and a great number of interesting objects were brought under notice. Thirteen microscopes were exhibited. The exhibition, which was both scientific and popular in character, afforded the greatest satisfaction, and at its close hopes were generally expressed that the Society would be enabled still to continue in the future years to hold similar meetings as heretofore.

A vote of thanks to the author of the paper, and for the presentations, terminated the proceedings.