

SEPTEMBER, 1876.

The monthly evening meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, 12th September, upwards of forty Fellows being present. His Excellency the Governor occupied the chair.

The following gentlemen, who had been previously nominated by the Council were balloted for and declared duly elected as Corresponding Members of the Society, viz., Dr. R. Schomburgk, Director of the Botanic Gardens, Adelaide; and Mr. John Brazier, C.M.Z.S., of Sydney. Mr. R. W. G. Shoobridge was also elected a fellow.

The SECRETARY brought under notice the usual returns for the past month, as follows :—

1. Number of visitors to Museum, total 1,897.
2. Ditto ditto Gardens, ditto 3,683.
3. Plants and seeds received at Gardens :—From A. Thozet, Esq., Queensland—A parcel of seeds of *Macrozamia perowskiana*, *M. migueli*, *Cycas, angulata*, and *Bowenia spectabilis*. From Mr. G. Brunning, Melbourne.—78 plants. From Messrs. Shepherd and Co., Sydney.—63 plants, 37 varieties of fruit scions, and 83 packets Australian seeds.
4. Plants supplied.—To Cornelian Bay Cemetery, 150 plants.
5. Time of leafing, flowering, and fruiting of a few standard plants in the Botanic Gardens during August.
6. Books and Periodicals received.
7. Presentations to Museum.

Meteorological Returns.

1. Hobart Town, from F. Abbott, Esq.—Table for August.
2. New Norfolk, from W. E. Shoobridge, Esq.—Ditto.
3. Port Arthur, from Dr. Coverdale—ditto.
4. From the Marine Board, the following tables—Mount Nelson for August; King's Island for May and June; Goose Island for June and July; Kent's Group for May, June, July and August.
5. Melbourne, from the Government Observatory, printed tables for April and May.

The presentations to the Museum and Library were as follows :—

1. From Mr. G. W. Briant—32 specimens of Tasmanian *Lepidoptera*, collected and mounted by donor.
2. From Mr. O. Hickman, per Mr. G. Richardson—a living specimen of the "Porcupine Ant-Eater" (*Echidna setosa*.)
3. From Mr. Bealey.—A curiously-shaped Fungus (probably *Polyporus igniarius*) from a tree.
4. From Mr. W. Legrand.—Type specimens of new Tasmanian Shells (*Cominella tenuicosta*, etc.), in all about fifty specimens.
5. From Mr. C. E. Davies.—A Chestnut-faced Owl (*Strix castanops*).
6. From Mrs. Meredith.—Skin of a variety of Opossum, known locally as the "Rock Opossum."
7. From Mr. Blyth, Honeywood.—Nests of Mason Wasp, taken from between a map and the wall on which it was suspended.
8. From the Rev. Brooke Bailey.—Three silver and three copper coins, viz., 2 Ceylon 1 cent and 5 cents; 1 quarter rupee, 1 10 cents; 1 ditto Hong Kong, 1 chellie, Dutch East India Company.
9. From Mr. Miles.—A tiger shark, caught off the Passage Mouth. This fish measured 8ft. 5in. in length, and its liver yielded three and a half gallons of oil.

10. From Mr. Roberts, Victoria, Huon—A large mass of Fibrous Tissue, found close to a tree which had recently been struck by lightning. The mass presented, in some degree, the appearance of very coarse oakum, and was composed entirely of the woody fibre of the bark—all the cellular tissue having been removed by the shock of the lightning or otherwise.
11. From His Excellency the Governor.—“On the movements and habits of Climbing Plants,” by C. Darwin M.A., F.R.S., 2nd edition.
12. From the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.—“Australian Orchids,” by R. D. Fitzgerald F.L.S. part 2.
13. From the Government of New South Wales.—A Mineral Map of New South Wales, and a pamphlet on the progress and resources of that colony.
14. From Baron Ferd von. Mueller.—Two pamphlets containing “An Educational lecture of the food of Plants,” by R. W. McIvor, Esq., “On select Textile Plants,” and a “Lecture on Tea,” by Baron F. von. Mueller.
15. From the Taylerian Museum, Haerlem.—“Records of the Museum, vols. 1, 2, 3, and 4” (twelve parts beautifully illustrated.)

A fine collection of insects from Gould's Country was exhibited by A. Simson Esq., and attracted much attention.

HIS EXCELLENCY read a long and interesting paper entitled “Reminiscences of a visit to the Volcanoes of Hawaii.”

Sir ROBERT OFFICER proposed a vote of thanks to the donors of presentations, and especially to the President for his very interesting and graphic narrative. He (Sir Robert Officer) had read several accounts of the great volcanoes of Hawaii, but from none had he derived so clear and satisfactory a conception of the subject as from that he had just had the pleasure of listening to. As he was necessarily an infrequent visitor he begged to that opportunity of expressing the extreme gratification he felt at seeing such a very large attendance of Fellows—an attendance which contrasted most favourably with many he had witnessed in former years. He had no doubt, however this was in a great measure due to the fresh impulse given to the Society by the warm interest which His Excellency had always taken in its affairs, and of which he had furnished abundant proofs by reading papers, presiding at the meetings and otherwise. Under such favourable auspices he felt that the Society must still continue to make progress and achieve still greater successes than any it had already accomplished.

The vote having been carried by acclamation, His Excellency briefly returned thanks, and the proceeding terminated.