

AUGUST, 1877.

The monthly meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, 14th August; JAMES BARNARD, Esq., in the chair.

H. BENJAFIELD, Esq., M.B., who had previously been nominated by the Council, was balloted for and declared duly elected as a Fellow of the Society.

The HON. SECRETARY (Dr. AGNEW) brought forward the following returns for the past month, viz. :—

1. Number of visitors to Museum, 1685.
2. Ditto ditto to Gardens, 4502.
3. Plants and Seeds sent from Gardens :—To Baron von Mueller, Melbourne, 100 papers seeds. To Mr. W. Bull, London, 10 papers seeds. [To Botanic Gardens, Calcutta, 28 papers seeds. To Royal Horticultural Gardens, London, 10 ditto. To the Royal Gardens, Kew, 106 ditto. To Messrs. Vilmorin, Andrieux, & Cie., Paris, 14 ditto. To Ch. Huber & Cie., Hyeres, France, 14 ditto. To Mr. C. F. Creswell, Melbourne, one box plants and seeds. To Mr. J. Jones, Melbourne, 50 papers seeds.
4. Plants supplied for decoration of public places :—For public school grounds, Sorell, 18 plants. For Church grounds, St. Mary's, 30 plants. For Church grounds, Spring Bay, 25 plants. To the Municipality of Deloraine, 100 plants.
5. Time of leafing, &c., of a few standard plants in the Botanic Gardens during July.
6. Books and Periodicals received.
7. Presentation to Museum.

Meteorological Tables—

1. Hobart Town, from F. Abbott, Esq.—Table for July.
2. New Norfolk, from W. E. Shoobridge, Esq.—Table for July.
3. Tamar Heads, from R. Henry, Esq., table for July.
4. From the Marine Board, tables from King's Island for February to June inclusive, Mount Nelson for July, and South Bruny for ditto.
5. Melbourne, from R. J. L. Ellery, Esq., printed tables for November, 1876.
6. Sydney, from H. C. Russell, Esq., ditto for 1876.
7. New Zealand, from Dr. Hector, meteorological report for 1875.

The presentations to the Museum were as follows :—

1. From F. B. Spicer, Campbell Town, a mountain duck (*Casarca tadornoides*).
2. From Mr. G. Ibbott, Lower Jerusalem, a Long-billed Cockatoo (*Licmetis tenuirostris*) shot near the Coal River. [This bird had evidently been in confinement.]
3. From Mr. L. Boyes, Gould's Country, a Nankeen Night Heron (*Nycticorax caledonicus*).
4. From Mr. Wm. Barnard, an Australian Golden Plover (*Charadrius orientalis*).

[Mr. J. SWAN observed he had never known these birds to be so numerous in Tasmania as during the present season. For one bird seen on former occasions, he must have seen fifty this year in the Lake District. He thought it probable that the great droughts in the interior of Australia had driven the birds southward to Tasmania in search of moisture.]

5. From Dr. Barnard, a sample of "tailings," said to contain 50 per cent. of copper, from the Kaiser Gold and Copper Mining Company, Lincoln, near Wellington, New South Wales.
6. From A. Simson, Esq. — Ten specimens of sponges and two of Echinodermata from Flinders Island.

7. From R. C. Kermodé, Esq.—190 specimens of modern European coins, with list.
8. From Master H. Jones—A Bronze Cuckoo (*Lamprococcyx plagosus*) from near Mount Nelson. [Mr. E. Swan remarked that this Cuckoo had appeared a month earlier than usual this year, as it was very rarely seen before September. Mr. J. Swan thought it might generally be looked for about the same time as the Swallow.]
9. From J. Swan, Esq.—A Black Magpie (*Strepera arguta*).
10. From Mr. W. Simpson—Two malformed eggs of common fowl.

The SECRETARY called attention to the unusually long list of book presentations on the table from societies in various parts of the world, to wit, Great Britain, America, Italy, Germany, New Zealand, and the neighbouring colonies.

The SECRETARY informed the meeting that His Excellency the President was unavoidably absent in consequence of another engagement.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather, the attendance of members was smaller than usual. After some observations as to certain of the presentations, the usual vote of thanks was accorded to the donors, and the meeting terminated.