

NOVEMBER, 1877.

The monthly evening meeting of the Society was held at the Museum on Monday, November 12, the Right Rev. the Bishop of Tasmania in the chair.

Dr. E. C. Barnard, 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 under notice the usual monthly returns, viz. :—

1. Number of Visitors to Museum during October, 1,722.
2. Ditto to Gardens, ditto, 4,723.
3. Plants received at Gardens—From Aug. Simson, Esq., a very fine trunk of *Alsophila australis* from Gould's Country. From Mons. J. Linden, Ghent, Belgium, 50 plants (Palms and Orchids) in very good condition.
4. Time of leafing, etc., of a few standard plants in the Botanic Gardens during October.
5. Books and Periodicals received.
6. Presentations to Museum.

Meteorology.—

1. Hobart Town, from F. Abbott, Esq.—Table for October.
2. Mt. Nelson, table for October; South Bruny, ditto; Swan Island, table for September; King's Island, tables for July, August, and September; from Hobart Town Marine Board.

The presentations to the Museum were as follows :—

1. From A. Simson, Esq.—A collection of unusually fine crystals of oxide of Tin from Gould's Country, with a note.
2. From Mr. E. A. Smith—Fossilcast of Pecten from limestone near Sandy Bay.
3. From Mr. J. E. Baynton—Samples of "washdirt," tin nuggets, etc., from Gould's Country.
4. From James Scott, Esq.—A fine specimen of Fossil Wood from Mount Morriston, with a note.
5. From Charles E. Barnard, Esq., M.D.—A named collection of Fossil Fruits from Gulgong, New South Wales.

[In reference to this presentation, the following note from Dr. Barnard was read :—"These fossil fruits were found embedded in the argillaceous 'wash dirt' of the 'Black Lead,' Gulgong, New South Wales, at a depth of 150 feet, associated with leaves and wood, the remains of ancient forests. Immediately above this washdirt is a stratum of hard basalt, 15 feet thick; and above this again are strata of clays and gravel alternating. These latter contain no gold; which is only found here beneath the basalt."]

Mr. M. ALLPORT remarked that one or two of these fossils from the New South Wales tertiaries were very similar to some found in the Travertine at Geilston, near Risdon, and in both cases they were of older date than the basalt, which in New South Wales overlies the fossils, and at Risdon has displaced the beds in which they occur. If any of the leaves found could be accurately associated with the fruits much light might be thrown on the flora of that period, and far greater interest given to the fossils from both localities.

The Rev. W. W. SPICER read a paper on "Silk and Silk Producers."

A paper by the Rev. J. E. Tenison-Woods, "On some new Tasmanian Marine Shells," was read by the Secretary.

Mr. ALLPORT read a very interesting paper "On the present stage of the Salmon Experiment."

After some conversational discussion, the Secretary announced that the Council, after due deliberation, had determined to open the Museum to the public on the afternoons of Sunday from 2:30 to 5 o'clock. This action was taken in the interest of all those whose occupations rendered them unable to visit during week days. The experiment would be continued for two or three months, after which period its continuance would be determined by the number of visitors.

The usual vote of thanks to the authors of the papers, and the donors of presentations having been accorded, the meeting terminated.