

MAY, 1879.

A monthly evening meeting of the Society was held on Monday, May 12. His Excellency the Governor in the chair.

William Henry Burgess, Esq., Mayor of Hobart Town, 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, drew attention to the following returns received since last meeting, viz:—

No. of visitors to Museum, April. On Sundays, 794, on week-days 929 : Total 1723.

2. Ditto to Botanic Gardens, 4262.

3. Plants sent from Gardens. For grounds of Industrial School, Harrington Street, 100 Plants.

4. Seeds received at Gardens:—From Mr. H. M. Hull: Nine kinds of seeds of forest trees sent by the Exhibition Commissioners, Philadelphia. From Mrs. C. Meredith: 10 packets of seeds from Cashmere, including *Nelumbium speciosum*. From Baron Ferd. von Müeller: 14 packets seeds (various).

5. Periodicals received.

6. Presentations to Museum and Library.

Meteorological Returns:—

1. Hobart Town, from F. Abbott, Esq., Table for April.

2. New Norfolk, from W. E. Shoobridge, Esq., Table for April (abstract) —Monthly means of Observations taken during the year 1878.

3. South Brun, tables for March and April, and Mt. Nelson for April. From the Marine Board.

4. New Zealand, from Dr. Hector, F.R.S., etc.: Printed tables June to December, inclusive, 1878.

5. Adelaide, from C. Todd, Esq., C.M.G.: Printed tables for May, 1878.

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

1. From J. Alun Jones, Esq.: A collection of ornaments made and worn by the Kaffir women, viz., necklaces, girdles, an apron, etc. Also a head ornament worn by the fighting men.

2. From — Atkinson, Esq., Latrobe, per the hon. D. Lewis: A sample of coarse gold. The following extract from a note from Mr. Lewis, in reference to this presentation was read:—"I have been requested by Mr. Atkinson, of Latrobe, to forward you for presentation to Royal Society's Museum, Hobart Town, a small sample of gold dust, obtained from land on the Kentish Plains, near the foot of Mount Roland, and about seven miles from the Mersey and Deloraine tramway. The gold is very similar to quantities I saw at Brandy Creek, and I was told was found nearly in the grass at the surface, and without any difficulty."

2. From Mrs. Stokell. Skull of a New Zealand Native.

4. From Mr. George Wilson, Huntsworth. A Specimen of Tartarean Oat. Dr. Agnew explained that the stalks—26 in number—of this splendid specimen were the produce of a single grain, and the number of grains in the head was considerably above a thousand. Of this oat Mr. Wilson had frequently grown, at Mount Seymour, as much as 100 bushels to the acre.

Library. 1. "Historical Records of Port Phillip." By J. J. Shillinglaw. From Government of Victoria.

2. "The Aborigines of Victoria." By R. Brough Smyth. From ditto.

The original contributions submitted to the meeting were numerous and interesting. The Secretary read a long and valuable paper, by Mr. R. M. Johnston, entitled "Observations on the Distribution and Variability of Tasmanian Land Shells."

Mr. T. STEPHENS read a paper, "On recent additions to the Flora of

Tasmania," by Mr. Augustus Simson. These additions consist of three plants new to the Colony, viz., *Hakea nodosa*, R. Br., *Helichrysum Spiceri*, Mueller, and *Eucalyptus Sieberi*, Muller. Specimens of the plants have been added to the Museum.

Mr. JUSTICE DOBSON read a paper on the Codlin Moth (Apple moth) This was a second contribution on the subject by the same observer, a former paper having been read in 1876 and subsequently published in the transactions.

Mr. F. ABBOTT also read a paper on the moth, giving at the same time extracts from English writers on the subject.

Discussion, in which His Excellency and others joined, ensued on the matter of the last two papers. Mr. Stephens thought much public benefit might be the result if a short digest were made of the information contained in these several papers which had been read before the Society on the subject of the codlin moth. Were this digest printed on a slip of paper it could easily, by means of the Post Office or otherwise, be brought under the notice of all apple growers, who would thus be furnished, in a very clear and concise form, with full information as to the best known methods of dealing with the pest. The suggestion met with the general approval of the meeting.

Mr. ABBOTT intimated that a valuable report on the Moth had been made by a Commission appointed by the American Government, and that he had made application for a copy.

A vote of thanks to the donors of presentations and the authors of papers, proposed by Mr. Barnard and seconded by Mr. Justin Browne, closed the proceedings.