

JUNE, 1880.

The monthly evening meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, 8th June. Mr. C. H. Grant in the chair.

The Secretary (Dr. AGNEW) brought forward the usual returns for the past month, viz. :—

1. No. of Visitors to Museum—On Sundays, 794; on week days, 682; total, 1,476.
2. Ditto to Gardens, 3,067.
3. Books and Periodicals received.
4. Presentations to Museum.

Meteorological Returns.—

From the Marine Board. Tables from Mount Nelson for May, and South Bruni Lighthouse for April.

Return showing time of leafing, flowering, and fruiting of a few standard plants in the Botanic Gardens during May :—

- 12th. First Medlar (Nottingham), ripe.
- 18th. *Photinia serrulata*, commencing to flower.
- 20th. *Diosma alba*, ditto.
- 28th. *Spiræa prunifolia*, ditto.
- 29th. *Ailanthus glandulosa*, leaves all shed.

F. ABBOTT, Jun., Supt.

The presentations to the Museum were as follows :—

1. From Mr. James Mackey.—Two specimens of the so-called "Vegetable Caterpillar" (*Cordiceps Robertsii*), from New Zealand.
2. From Mr. McShane, Jerusalem.—The cast skin of a large Black Snake (*Hoplocephalus curtus*).
3. From Hon. James Maclanachan, Tunbridge.—An Egyptian Goose (*Chenalopex Egyptiaca*).
4. From Mr. J. C. Bethune, Dunrobin.—Specimen of Native Tiger (*Thylacinus cynocephalus*).
5. From Miss Wickes, Cherry Tree Opening.—A piece of the outer bark of the White Gum with curious markings resembling lace-work patterns.
6. From Mr. G. F. Lovett.—Two fossils (*Pecten laticostatus* and *Ostrea lutaria*), from Shakespeare's Cliff, coast road to Napier, New Zealand.

The usual periodicals having been laid on the table, special attention was directed to the very numerous presentations to the library from various learned bodies, embracing the Zoological Society of London, the Geological Society, the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain, the Royal Geographical Society, the British Association, the Linnean Society, the Royal Astronomical Society, the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders in Scotland, the Royal Institution of Great Britain, the Academy of Sciences, Munich, and the Entomological Society of Belgium. Valuable contributions of books from the British Museum, the Army Medical Department, United States; and the National Observatory, Cordoba, were also brought under notice.

The SECRETARY read a paper by Baron von Mueller on some Tasmanian plants. In reference to one of these, *Verbena officinalis*, the writer says :— "The discovery of the medicinal Vervain in Tasmania, though no unexpected, is of double interest, inasmuch as this plant adds a *Natura Order* to the Flora of the island. This *Verbena* is rather widely, but no copiously, distributed through South-eastern Australia, but not yet found

in New Zealand, where, however, it may have been overlooked, as it has been for so long a time in Tasmania."

After some conversational discussion the proceedings were closed by a vote of thanks to Baron von Mueller, and to the donors of presentations.

No Meeting held in July.
