

OCTOBER, 1881.

The usual monthly evening meeting of the Society was held at the Museum on Monday, the 10th of October; His Honor Mr. Justice Dobson, V.P., in the chair.

Mr. John Hamilton, who had previously been nominated by the Council, was balloted for, and declared duly elected as a Fellow of the Society.

The following returns for the past month were brought under notice, viz:—

1. Visitors to Museum, on Sundays 581, on week days 786, total 1,367.
2. Ditto to Gardens 4,500.
3. Plants, etc., received at Gardens :—From Mr. C. F. Creswell, Sydney, 1 bag of Norfolk Island Pine seeds. From Mr. S. Purchass, Sydney, a case of Norfolk Island Pine plants. From Messrs. H. Low and Co., London, 58 plants, of which about one-half were dead on arrival. From Mr. C. F. Creswell, Melbourne, seven new Dahlia roots.
4. Seeds sent from Gardens to Messrs. Villmorin and Co., Paris, and the Botanic Gardens, Melbourne.
5. Books and Periodicals received.
6. Presentations to Museum—
 Meteorology : 1. From the Marine Board, tables from Mount Nelson and Bruny Island, for September. 2. From the Government Observer, New Zealand, printed tables from Wellington, for July and August.
 Time of leafing, flowering, etc., of a few standard plants in the Botanic Gardens during September :—
 20th Moutan Peony commencing to flower.
 24th Oak commencing to break into leaf.
 26th Grape vines ditto.
 27th Ash ditto.
 28th Sycamore ditto.
 29th Horsechestnut commencing to flower.
 30th Robinia Pseudo-Acacia commencing to break.

The presentations to the Museum were as follows:—

1. From the Hon. W. A. B. Gellibrand, M.L.C. A Native Tiger (*Thylacinus cynocephalus*).
2. From H. Lamb, Esq., M.H.A. Two Native Devils (*Sarcophilus ursinus*), male and female, from Clarence Plains.
3. From Mrs. Gifford. Specimen of the red-rumped Parrakeet (*Psephotus hæmatonotus*), from Queensland.
4. From Mrs. Lodder. A number of additional specimens of Tasmanian Lepidoptera.
5. From Mr. Glover. A Bush Rat (*Mus sp.*), from Huon District.
6. From Master Puelleine. Five shells from Fiji.
7. From Mr. S. H. Wintle, Specimens from the Scamander Goldfield.
8. From Mr. Ives, Barque Ethel. A Flying Fish (*Exocoetus volitans*).
9. From Mr. W. Doodie. Specimen of Agate from Camden Plains, near Mount Barrow.

The attention of the meeting was called to a donation of books, from the library of the late Dr. E. S. Hall, received from the representatives of that gentleman, and comprising about 130 bound volumes, together with a large number of official blue books, reports, pamphlets, etc.

A paper by Mr. S. H. Wintle on "The Scamander Goldfield" was read in the absence of the author, by Mr. STEPHENS; who remarked that the locality in question, lying as it did on the lower line between the boundary palæozoic and granitoid rocks, possessed special interest for the geologist, and that he could corroborate Mr. Wintle's statement as to the satisfactory prospects obtained from the quartz veins, so far as they have been tested.

The CHAIRMAN announced the discovery, on the West Coast, of a fern, new to the flora of Tasmania, in reference to which he read the following extract from a letter, received by him from Baron von Mueller:—"The fern of which you sent a small fragment is *Aspidium hispidum* of Swartz. As you rightly surmised it is new for Tasmania, though it does not show itself now unexpectedly, inasmuch as this fern has been found in two places of the colony of Victoria. For nearly half a century this *Aspidium* had not been noticed outside of New Zealand, but it has in later years also been gathered in Mauritius." This fern was recently procured by Mr. George Lefroy, some miles to the north of Macquarie Harbour.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the author of the paper read, and to the donors of presentations to the Museum and Library.

NOVEMBER, 1881.

The monthly evening meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, the 15th November, His Excellency Sir John Henry Lefroy, K.C.M.G., the President, in the chair.

Messrs. H. M. Hull, E. B. Gawne, and W. H. Macfarlane, M.B., who had previously been nominated by the Council, were balloted for, and declared duly elected as Fellows of the Society.

The hon. Secretary, Mr. BARNARD, brought forward the usual monthly returns, viz. :—

1. No. of Visitors to Museum, October, on Sundays, 559 ; on week days, 414 ; total, 973.
2. Ditto to Gardens ; total, 4,607.
3. Plants, etc., received at Gardens during September and October :—From Mr. C. F. Creswell, Sydney, 1 bag of Norfolk Island Pine Seeds, and 9 new Dahlia roots. From Messrs. H. Low, London, 50 plants. From Baron von Mueller, 6 papers of seeds.
4. Seeds sent from Gardens :—To the Botanic Gardens, Melbourne, 1 package ; to Messrs. Villmorin, Andrieux, and Co., Paris, 4 ditto ; to Mr. E. B. Heyne, Adelaide, 6 packets.
5. Books and periodicals received.
6. Presentations to Museum.

Meteorology.—Mount Nelson, from the Marine Board, table for October.

Time of leafing, flowering, and fruiting of a few standard plants in the Botanic Gardens during October :—

- 8th. *Carpinus betulus* commencing to break.
- 18th. *Ailanthus glandulosus*, ditto.
- 20th. Black Mulberry, ditto.
- 21st. Common Lime, ditto.
- 22nd. Elm, commencing to shed seed.
- 25th. *Melia azederach*, commencing to break.
- 30th. Horsechestnut, in full flower.

The presentations to the Museum were as follows :—

1. From Mr. J. W. Johnston. Specimen of Native Bread (*Mylitta Australis*), from Broad Marsh.
2. From Mr. A. Jackson. A Musk Duck (*Biziura lobata*), from Hamilton.
3. From Mr. S. H. Wintle, F.L.S. A Pouched Lamprey (*Geotria Allporti*), from George's Bay. A large Crab (*Pseudocarcinus gigas*, Lamarck), caught in 70 fathoms water, off St. Patrick's Head, East Coast, Tasmania.
4. From Mr. E. B. Gawne. A Diamond Snake (*Hoplocephalus superbus*).