



J. B. WALKER, F.R.G.S.

JUNE, 1900.

The monthly evening meeting of the Royal Society was held in the Art Gallery of the Tasmanian Museum on Tuesday, June 19, Mr. Thos. Stephens, M.A., F.G.S. (vice-president) in the chair.

Apologies.

The secretary read apologies for absence from Sir James Agnew, the Bishop of Tasmania, and the Speaker of the House of Assembly.

Election.

The following were elected members of the society:—Messrs. G. E. Moore, M. Inst. C.E., H. J. Daniels, C. B. Petersen, and W. O. Wise.

The Late J. B. Walker.

The Chairman (Mr. T. Stephens) said he had to call the attention of those present to the handsome portrait of the late J. B. Walker, which had become the property of the society through the kind instrumentality of Mr. Beattie. Mr. Stephens became acquainted with Mr. Walker in connection with a prize won by that gentleman for a poem written in the early sixties. A few years later he became acquainted with Mr. Walker personally, and he knew him from that time to the end. Mr. Walker was prominently known in connection with many good works, and his connection with the Royal Society was intimate and singularly honourable. The society was, therefore, deeply in-

debted to Mr. Beattie for his kindly and valuable gift.

Colonel Legge, R.A., read a paper on "The Birds of Australia: Birds, Nests, and Eggs," for Mr. A. J. Campbell, of Victoria. The paper was illustrated by a very interesting and complete series of lantern slides.

"The Falls of Niagara as a Geological Chronometer," by Professor E. G. Hogg, M.A. The lantern slides shown were interesting, and the paper contained much matter of scientific value. Opening with some remarks tending to show how profoundly the natural drainage system of a country was modified by the country's glaciation, Professor Hogg proceeded to the description of the glaciated area of the United States, particularly as to the locality of the Great Lakes and the immediate neighbourhood of Niagara. The original ice-sheet here, he said, was estimated roughly to have had a thickness of about 30,000 feet. Various details were given showing the difference that has resulted in the contour and formation of the Great Lakes region since pre-glacial times, and so the broad influences which resulted in the making of Niagara were traced. The lecturer closed with some account of the condition and history of the Falls—whose actual age is variously estimated by opposing geological schools at from 7,000 to 30,000 years.

The meeting closed with votes of thanks to authors of papers.

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No meeting.