

From the Reverend J. Fereday, of George Town, was received a packet of seeds of the *Alyxia buxifolia*, the shrubby tree from which the scented wood of the north coast of Tasmania is procured.

From Mr. Calder was received a series of specimens of the beds passed through by him in sinking a forty-foot hole in the richest part of the *old* Eureka line; with a fragment of quartz from the Great (134lb.) Nugget-hole at Canadian Gulley; and specimens of slate from Golden Point, Ballaarat.

Mr. Milligan placed before the meeting a paling thickly covered with barnacles, *Pentelasmis*, sp. ? picked up on the sea coast, near the Douglas Piver.

From Mr. Calder was also received a spirit preparation of the small Flying Squirrel, *Acrobates pygmaeus*, (Desm.) of Victoria.

An elaborate paper on Tasmanian Statistics for the decennial period ending 31st December, 1853, was read by Mr. Barnard.

Conversations followed, in which most of the members present took part.

It was then moved by Mr. Hone, and seconded by Dr. Agnew, and carried,—“That the thanks of the meeting are due to Mr. Barnard for his able and valuable paper on Statistics, and to the other persons who have made communications and presentations to the Society.”

The reverend chairman rose, and the meeting broke up by half-past nine o'clock.

8TH NOVEMBER, 1854.—Monthly evening meeting; Joseph Hone, Esq., in the chair.

The following gentlemen were, after a ballot, declared to be duly elected Fellows of the Society: Major Bradshaw, Dr. Atkinson, P.M.O., of Hobart Town; John Sinclair, M.L.C., of Launceston; and Anthony R. Truro, of Campbell Town, Esquires.

The presentations made to the Library were:—By the Rev. T. J. Ewing, of New Town;—“Elements of Physio-philosophy, by Lawrenz Oken, M.D. ;” also 2 vols. of the *Bulletin de la Société de Géographie*, and “Westgarth’s Commercial and Statistical Report of the Colony of Port Phillip for 1844.”

First Report of the Adelaide Philosophical Society from the Secretary, from whom a letter has been received seeking an interchange of communications, and co-operation with the Royal Society in the pursuit and working out of their respective objects and views.

From Ferdinand Müller, Esq., Government Botanist of Victoria, his Second General Report on the Vegetation of the Colony, dated the 5th October last.

From the Rev. W. B. Clarke, F.G.S., &c., Sydney, a Council Paper relative to Gold Discoveries in Australia; another on Sir R. I. Murchison’s claim to the same; also Reports Nos. 9 and 10, by the Rev. W. B. Clarke, to the Colonial Secretary, on the Geology of the Clarence District and adjoining regions, and of the basin of the Condamine River, respectively.

Mr. Boot forwarded to the Museum a piece of polished Purbeck stone which formed part of the foundation of the "Old London Bridge," immediately under the "Ladye Chapel," the first stone of which was laid in 1176.

A note was read from Mr. Groom, of Harefield, transmitting one of the largest "Sheep Balls" which has been met with, measuring thirteen inches round. It is well known that these balls consist of a succession of layers of imperfectly digested vegetable fibre. Whether the action by which this matter is accumulated is due to functional disorder, or to the fact of the animal eating plants insusceptible of perfect digestion by a healthy stomach, remains yet to be proved: this to the stock-owner, however, appears to be of small moment, as it seems to interfere but little with the health and condition of the animal affected. Mr. Groom says of this particular ball, "it was taken out of a *fat* sheep four years old: there were many others in the sheep, but this was the largest. As far as I have seen, they do not appear to be injurious."

A letter was read from Mr. Thomas Flude in reference to a sample of Coal taken from the out-crop of a seam exposed by a road party in cutting for repairs near Green Ponds. Mr. Flude says, "the present appearances appear to indicate an obvious dip to the N.E., and running under the hill on the eastern portion of the proposed township of Shepton Montacute, on the top of Constitution Hill, and close to the main line of road; the cutting all above shows a quantity of free-stone, and large iron-stone pebbles mixed with gravel of a bright red and seams of very stiff clay." A sample of the coal was submitted to the meeting, having been forwarded by the Director-General of Roads, by order of His Excellency Sir William Denison.

Mr. F. S. Dobson submitted to the meeting Three Tables of Meteorological Observations taken at Government House by him, in conjunction with Mr. Hull, for August, September, and October last. Mr. Dobson also submitted a Table showing the specific gravity of twenty-five timber trees of Tasmania, ascertained by himself, and read a short but interesting paper upon the subject.

Mr. Milligan read a letter from J. Barnard Davis, Esq., of Shelton, Staffordshire, enclosing a proof of the first plate of his forthcoming Ethnological work, entitled "Crania Britannica," and soliciting contributions from members of the Society and others of skulls of the Aboriginal races of Tasmania, New Zealand, Australia, &c., together with specimens of the hair of the "full blood natives" of these countries for microscopic purposes. The Secretary stated that he would have much pleasure in forwarding to Mr. Davis any contribution of this nature entrusted to him for the purpose, and observed that researches such as Mr. Davis was engaged in were becoming of daily greater importance, in consequence of the rapid disappearance of the aboriginal races under the influence of civilization.

After discussions on subjects before the meeting, it was moved by Dr. Agnew, seconded by Mr. Barnard, and carried,—

"That the thanks of the meeting are due to the various parties who have sent donations and papers."

The following resolution was then moved by Mr. Kilburn, seconded by Mr. Moss, and carried unanimously,

“That it is the opinion of this meeting, that an expression of the estimation in which His Excellency Sir William Denison, the President, now about to retire, is held by the Society is required, and that the Secretary do accordingly take steps to bring the subject under the notice of the Council, with a view to the preparation of an appropriate Address to be laid before a Special General Meeting of the Fellows convened for this purpose, and for appointing a deputation to wait upon His Excellency with the same.”

The chairman rose, and the meeting broke up at half-past nine.

13TH DECEMBER, 1854.—Monthly meeting; the chair was occupied by Joseph Hone, Esq., senior member of the Council.

Upon a ballot taking place, the following gentlemen were declared duly elected Fellows:—

The Rev. John Allen Manton and Arthur Gardiner, Esq., both of Hobart Town.

A message was received from His Excellency the President excusing his non-attendance.

The following donations were announced:—

From the Royal Geographical Society, a Catalogue of their Library, corrected to May 1851, with addenda to May 1853.

From Dr. Shaw, Address of the Right Honourable the Earl of Ellesmere, K. G., D. C. L., &c., at the Anniversary of the Royal Geographical Society, held on 22nd May last.

From the Royal Society of London, Fasciculus No. 6, Vol. 7, of their Proceedings, forwarded through His Excellency Sir William Denison.

From D. T. Kilburn, Esq., a short History of the Tower of London, by Joseph Wheeler, and a Guide to the Crystal Palace and Park at Sydenham, by Samuel Philips.

For the Museum the following contributions were reported:—

From Mrs. Champ, a fine specimen of a Cowrie, *Cyprea talpa*.

From Arthur Smith, Esq., of Syndal, near Ross, a recent mammilated concretion of arenaceous particles cemented with Silex having somewhat the form of Coral; being portion of a thin bed intersected about ten or twelve feet down in digging a well near his residence.

From the collection of the late Captain Addison, presented by his widow, two Chinese Umbrellas, the barrel of a Chinese Gun bored in stone, closely fitted round with slips of bamboo strongly hooped together, having the touch-hole at the extremity of the breech, captured at the taking of Chusan;—a small Battle Axe and three Clubs of the Fegees;—the Staff of a Baton of a New Zealander, ornamented with carved work;—a similar Staff, having fixed upon it the head of a European tomahawk;—an Adze of the axe stone of New