

Monday February 21st 1870.

Annual Meeting of the Members
held at the Museum @ 7.30 P.M.

J B Gillies to the Chair.

After a few preliminary remarks the
Chairman called upon the Secretary to read
the Annual Report.

ANNUAL REPORT.

"In presenting the second Annual Report of the Auckland Institute, the Council has great pleasure in being able to congratulate the members on the large amount of success that has been realised during the past year, as well as on the increasing interest evinced in its proceedings.

"The Transactions of the New Zealand Institute for 1868'—a volume of about five hundred pages, containing a large amount of valuable information on matters of wide interest connected with the colony—has been placed in the hands of the members, free of cost, and has done much towards attracting public attention to the objects it is striving to carry out.

"Monthly meetings of the members were held during the past year, from June to November, at which the following papers were read, and the various facts and opinions expressed were duly discussed:—
An account of the Puka (*Meryta Sinclairii*, Seem), by T. Kirk. On the Introduction of the Pheasant into the province of Auckland, by Captain F. W. Hutton, F.G.S. A Memorandum relative to an Alleged Decrease in the Yield of Honey, and the Scarcity of Parrots and Parroquets, by R. Todd, Raglan. On the Surface-flow of Water, a Guide to Under-drainage, by J. Baber, C.E. On the Latent Heat contained in the Aqueous Vapour of the Atmosphere, being part of a series of letters originally published in the DAILY SOUTHERN CROSS, by J. A. Wilson. On the Geological Features of the North Head of the Manukau, by Captain Hutton, F.G.S. An Account of a Remarkable Phenomenon witnessed at a Hot Spring near Lake Taupo, by Captain J. R. Corbett. On Grasses and other Plants adapted for Pasturage in the province of Auckland, specially with regard to indigenous kinds, by T. Kirk. A Description of Two Birds new to the Fauna of New Zealand, by Captain Hutton, F.G.S. On the Occurrence of *Orobanche*, a genus new to the Flora of New Zealand, by T. Kirk. A Description of the Lava Caves at the Three Kings, by James Stewart, C.E. On the Comparative Performance of certain River Steamers on the Waikato, by J. Stewart, C.E. Diary of a Canoe Voyage up the Waikato and Waipa Rivers in September and October, 1852, by the late

Dr. Sinclair, communicated by the President. On the Discovery of *Isoetes* and Other Genera of *Rhizocarpeæ* new to the Flora of New Zealand, by T. Kirk. On *Epacris Purpurascens* (Br.) in New Zealand, with Remarks on *Epacris Pauciflora* (A. Rich), by T. Kirk. On the Structure of the Leaf of *Phormium Tenax*, by Captain Hutton, F.G.S. Notes on *Phormium Tenax*, by Major Heaphy, V.C. An Account of the Discovery of a Frog (*Scipodema Hochstetteri*) at Puriri, with an Account of Certain Peculiarities in the History of an Australian Frog, by A. W. Aitkin. An Account of Certain Drainage Works at the Remuera Swamp, by James Baber, C.E. On the Naturalised Plants of New Zealand, with a detailed Account of their Distribution in the Province of Auckland, by T. Kirk. On the Necessity for Improvement in the Processes for Extracting and Saving Gold, by T. Heale.

"Read before the medical section: An Account of the Katipo, a poisonous spider found in New Zealand, by F. W. Wright, Licentiate of the Medical Board of Toronto. On Vaccination, by S. J. Stratford, M.R.C.S. An Account of a Case of Tying the External Iliac Artery, by T. M. Philson, M.D.

"In October last, the late Superintendent, Mr. John Williamson, gave effect to the resolution of the Provincial Council transferring the Museum to the Institute on a guarantee for the preservation of its contents and the free admission of the public. Mr. Williamson was also successful in obtaining a grant of the site of the old Post-office for the Institute; the legal documents effecting its transfer are now in course of execution, and the Museum and Library have been removed to the buildings on the site. The Council cannot leave this subject without expressing the sense it entertains of Mr. Williamson's efforts to promote the success of the Institute.

"At the October meeting, the President was appointed to represent the Institute in voting at the election of Governors of the New Zealand Institute, and has since been elected a Governor. The New Zealand Institute voted the sum of twenty pounds as a grant in aid to the Auckland Institute. This acceptable aid has been specially appropriated to the purchase of new cases for the Museum, which were badly wanted.

"During the past year the formation of a medical section, in connection with the Institute, was proposed to the Council. The proposition was adopted, and the section was formed, with the power of framing its by-laws, subject to the approval of the Council. Notwithstanding some opposition it is now in working order, with every prospect of success, and has contributed several papers to the volume of 'Transactions,' now in the hands of the printer. The Council is prepared to extend the same principle to those members desirous of forming a section for the discussion of purely literary subjects.

"As the maintenance of the Museum is especially for the benefit of the public, the propriety of soliciting the Provincial Council to grant a vote in aid of the annual expense, as is the case in other provinces, and to assist in increasing the efficiency of both the library and museum, becomes a fair subject for consideration; and the Council of the Institute would also draw the attention of members to the necessity of taking steps to procure the necessary funds for the erection of permanent buildings.

"The Institute is largely indebted to numerous contributors of valuable donations to the Library and Museum, particulars of which are given at the close of this report.

"The increased space available in the Museum has enabled the Curator to arrange the birds with due regard to classification, which was previously impracticable, and to make arrangements for increasing the collection. A large series of specimens of triassic rocks from Nelson, interesting from the resemblance they bear to the rocks of the Thames goldfield, is now exhibited. Extensive series of rock specimens from the Great and Little Barrier and Taranga Islands, together with other geological specimens of interest, are also displayed for examination and comparison. The Curator is now engaged in preparing a catalogue of the objects in the Museum, as well as the entire rearrangement rendered necessary by removal.

"The Council would point out that the increase of members during the past year from 67 to 106, and of income from £67 to £163, affords great encouragement for renewed efforts. A considerable increase of funds is necessary before the Institute can be in a position to make material additions to the library, or to devote any portion of its income to the investigation of the natural productions and undeveloped commercial resources of the province. At the same time, it is no less necessary that all members who are able to contribute original papers—whether consisting of the records of facts and observations merely, or of the general conclusions to be drawn therefrom; of new aspects and relations of well-known facts; or of their application to the purposes of commerce in its widest sense—should feel themselves bound in this manner to aid a Society having for its chief object the progress of science.

"The following magazines and periodicals are now in circulation amongst the members:—The Practitioner, Mechanics' Magazine, Gentleman's Magazine, American Quarterly Journal of the Medical Sciences, Mining Journal, Seaman's Magazine of Botany, Annals and Magazine of Natural History, Quarterly Journal of Science, Chemical News, Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science, Gardeners' Chronicle, Scientific American, Natural History Review, Lancet, Medical Journal, Psychological Journal. Members who may be desirous of taking out any of the above are requested to apply to the secretary, at the Museum, on any of the public days, from half-past ten till four."

The Auckland Institute in Ac with the Treasurer
Dr.

To Bal ^e Bro ^e forward	6. 16. 7
" Ent ^e Fees & Sub ^e ^{co} .	144. 18. 0
" Grant in Aid from B. Inst.	20. 0. 0
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" Secretary	75 - -
" Stationery, Advts & } Sundry small Expence }	8 16 1
" Repairs of Build ^e and } Cost of removal }	8 12 2
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