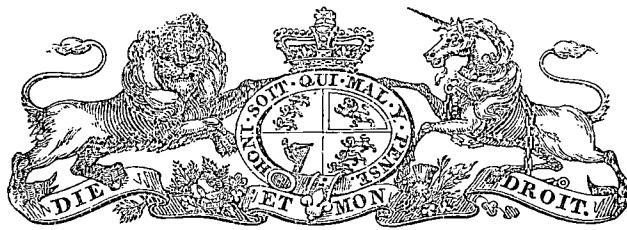


(No. 126.)



1888.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA :

REPORT FOR 1887.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



REPORT of the ROYAL SOCIETY of TASMANIA for the Year 1887.

THE Council of the Royal Society have much pleasure in presenting their Report for 1887, which cannot but prove gratifying to the Fellows. The session was opened on the 19th of April by Sir Robert George Crookshank Hamilton, K.C.B., President, Lady Hamilton and upwards of 60 Members being present. The monthly meetings were regularly held, and very largely attended. Many of the papers read, irrespective of their strictly scientific value, were of peculiar interest to the general public. This was specially the case as to the first paper by Mr. R. M. Johnston, F.L.S., entitled "How far can the death-rate for all ages be relied upon as a comparative index of the health or sanitary condition of any community?"

The papers read, 29 in number, were as follows:—

1. "How far can the general death-rate for all ages be relied upon as a comparative index of the health or sanitary condition of any community?"
2. "An account of two rare fish, *Histiophorus Herschelli*, and *Lamna cornubica*."
3. "Notes with respect to the fishes, the land and fresh-water molluscs, of King's Island."
4. "On the lower coal measures of Port Cygnet."
5. "Notes on the Fingal Basin from the operations of a trial bore."
6. "Observations with respect to the nature and classification of the rocks of the Tertiary period, more particularly relating to Tasmania." By Mr. R. M. Johnston, F.L.S.
7. "Description of new species of Tasmanian *Hepaticæ*." By Messrs. B. Carrington, M.D., and W. H. Pearson.
8. "Description of two new species of Tasmanian fresh-water Shells." By W. F. Petterd, F.L.S.
9. "Notes on the Tasmanian Butter-fish," *Chilodactylus Mulhali*.
10. "Notes on the identity of certain Tasmanian Fish."
11. "On the acclimatisation of the Salmon, *Salmo salar*, in Tasmanian waters." By Mr. W. Saville-Kent, F.L.S., &c.
12. "Notes on three specimens of Fish hitherto unrecorded as being found in Tasmanian waters."
13. "On the egg of the Echidna."
14. "On a new genus of Fish, (*Eurumetopos Johnstoni*)." By Mr. Alex. Morton.
15. "On the star *Alpha Centauri*."
16. "The Comets of February, 1880, and January, 1887." By Mr. A. B. Biggs.
17. "On the *Riccia natans*."
18. "Tasmanian *Hepaticæ*."
19. "On a building Rotifer." By Mr. R. A. Bastow, F.L.S.
20. "On some Plants new to Tasmania, &c." By Baron F. von Mueller, K.C.M.G., F.R.S.
21. "Notes on the destruction of the Ferns and Trees of the Mount Wellington Reserve." By Mr. George Perrin.
22. "Notes on Iceland." By Rev. J. B. Woollnough.
23. "A First List of the Birds of Maria Island."

24. "The Highlands of Lake St. Clair."
25. "The nesting of certain Birds on the Acteon Islands." By Col. W. V. Legge, R.A.
26. "Diamond digging in South Africa." By Mr. James Andrew.
27. "On the Geology of the Scottsdale Line."
28. "On the Geological conditions of the site of the new Storage Reservoir, near Hobart." By Mr. T. Stephens, F.G.S., M.A.
29. "Common Sense in Education." By Mr. J. S. Laurie.

Mr. R. A. Bastow's very valuable paper on the Tasmanian *Hepaticæ* deserves special notice, being an exhaustive description of all the known *Hepaticæ* of the Colony. Accompanying the paper were 35 plates, illustrating about 140 species, all drawn by Mr. Bastow.

At the May meeting a Complimentary Address to the Queen (the Patron of the Society), on the auspicious occasion of Her Jubilee year, was adopted. At the meeting held in October it was resolved, *inter alia*, that a fresh attempt should be made to obtain from the Mother Country a large importation of the ova of the *Salmo salar*. The Society were enabled to take the necessary steps with this object, through the munificence of the Hon. Secretary of the Society, the Hon. J. W. Agnew. The result of this, the last of several experiments of the same kind, will be of interest not to Tasmania alone, but to all Australasia.

The session was closed by an address from the President, in which much of the work done during 1887 was reviewed.

All the Papers are now being printed for the Transactions, which will very soon, owing to the exertions of our zealous Secretary, be ready for distribution.

LIBRARY.

No important additions beyond the usual periodic literature have been made to the Library, but it is intended to devote the accrued interest of the Allport Fund to the immediate purchase of some standard works.

FELLOWS.

Twenty-two new Members have been admitted, and thirteen have been lost through resignation or death. Under the latter head we have to lament the untimely death of one of our most valued contributors, Mr. Chas. P. Sprent. From Mr. Sprent's contributions to the Transactions of the Society in the past, and from his extensive knowledge of the country, much was expected from him in the future. His loss will long be felt in the field of science. His last paper was "On Antarctic Exploration."

FINANCE.

The income has been :—Subscriptions to Royal Society, £193 10s.; fixed deposit of the late Dr. Milligan's legacy, £300; interest on same, £18,—making, with balance from 1886, £633 0s. 1d. The expenditure amounted to £230, leaving a balance to credit with fixed deposit, £413 0s. 1d.



STATEMENT of the Funds of the ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA for the Year 1887.

<i>Receipts.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Balance as per Statement for 1886.....	131 10 1	Salary of Secretary.....	25 0 0
Annual Subscriptions	198 10 0	Ditto Attendant	6 0 0
Fixed deposits, 12 months	300 0 0	Printing and Advertising	139 0 3
Interest on ditto	18 0 0	Stationery, &c.	14 14 7
		Insurance	2 10 0
		Periodicals.....	3 4 9
		Petty Cash.....	1 19 11
		Gas	1 15 0
		Fittings, &c.	17 13 0
		Address to Her Majesty	8 8 0
		Collector's Commission	9 13 0
		Stamps	0 13 0
		Fixed deposit due to the Museum	100 0 0
		Ditto, Royal Society	200 0 0
		Balance per Bank Book on 2nd	
		Feb., 1888.....	£100 17 7
		Including cheques paid belonging	
		to next Statement	16 0 0
			<hr/> 116 17 7
		Less outstanding cheques £3 8s.,	
		£1 1s.....	4 9 0
			<hr/> 112 8 7
	<hr/> <hr/> £643 0 1		<hr/> <hr/> £643 0 1

Examined and found correct.

JOHN MACFARLANE.
FRANCIS BUTLER.

13th February, 1888.

STATEMENT of the Funds of the MORTON ALLPORT Memorial Fund, 1887.

<i>Dr.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>Cr.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
1887. Balance as per statement for 1887	25 10 0	1887. Balance in Savings Bank to credit of fund...	38 11 8
Feb. 28. Interest, Savings Bank	0 9 2		
Aug. 31. Ditto ditto.....	0 12 6		
Dec. 21. Interest received from Trustees.....	12 0 0		
	<hr/> <hr/> £38 11 8		<hr/> <hr/> £38 11 8

Examined with Savings Bank Book, and found to be correct.

JOHN MACFARLANE.
FRANCIS BUTLER.