

Ayes.—The most interesting additions to this section are—a pure “albino” of the common wood-pigeon (*Carpophaga novæ zelandiæ*), obtained in the Wairarapa District; the New Zealand snipe (*Gallinago aucklandica*); and specimens of the “flightless duck” (*Nesonetta aucklandica*) and the megansur (*Mergus australis*), from the Auckland Islands.

Pisces.—A considerable collection has been sent to the Hon. W. Macleay, Sydney, in exchange for a series of Australian fishes received last year. Additions have also been made to the stock of New Zealand fishes in hand, so that exchanges may be effected as opportunities offer. The most interesting additions to the Museum collection are—*Chironemus fergusonii*, Wellington Harbour; *Erichthys nitidus*, from the Brothers Rocks; *Sphyræna obtusata*, *Atherina pinguis*, and *Atypus strigatus*, from Island Bay; a collection of about eighty specimens illustrating the ichthyology of Japan, presented by the Hon. G. M. Waterhouse; and a valuable series from Melbourne, obtained by Dr. Hector.

Invertebrata.—Collections of mollusca, polyzoa, crustacea, and annelids, made in the neighbourhood of Wellington by members of the department, and a number of Australian mollusca from Mr. T. F. Bailey, of Melbourne, have added considerably to the very large series already existing in the Museum.

Ethnological.—A collection of Fijian articles, consisting chiefly of mats, baskets, &c., has been secured for the Museum through the kindness of Mr. T. Vickery, the Executive Commissioner for Fiji at the Sydney Exhibition. A *pouraka* and a *hinaki*, Maori fishing-nets, received from Mr. Henry Tryon, of Taupo, are the chief items under this head.

SYDNEY EXHIBITION.

An extensive series, numbering 2,585 specimens, was selected from the Museum collection for exhibition at Sydney, accompanied by a detailed catalogue, of which the following is an abstract:—

*Collections illustrating the Geology and Natural History of New Zealand.**

(1-82) Palæozoic Fossils	(2553-2585) Publications— <i>continued</i>
(83-389) Lower Mesozoic Fossils	Natural History of New Zealand
(390-654) Upper Mesozoic Fossils	Meteorological Reports, 1868-79
(655-1211) Tertiary Fossils	Transactions of New Zealand Institute, Vols. I. to IX.
(1212-1420) Recent Mollusca	The Grasses of New Zealand
(1421-1517) Tertiary Corals and Polyzoa	One Hundred Photographic Views of New Zealand Scenery
(1518-1535) Fossil Vertebrata	Models made by Dr. Hector—
(1536-1737) Human Period	New Zealand Topographical
(1738-1941) Fossil Plants	New Zealand Geological
(1942-2106) Rocks	Volcanic System of Ruapehu and Tongariro
(2107-2147) Gold Specimens	Sketches of New Zealand Scenery by W. M. Cooper
(2148-2391) Minerals	Casts of Moa Eggs and Other Objects
(2392-2405) Coals	Maps, Plans, and Sections illustrating the Geology and Physical Features of New Zealand.
(2406-2424) Crustacea	
(2425-2476) Phormium Samples	
(2477-2552) Timbers	
(2553-2585) Publications, viz. :—	
Geological Reports, 1868-79	
Museum and Laboratory Reports, 1867-79	
On Phormium Tenax	

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY BRANCH.

A number of important surveys have been made during the past season, the full results of which will appear in the annual volume of Reports. Owing to my protracted absence from the colony in connection with the Sydney Exhibition, the field-work for the year has chiefly devolved on Messrs. Cox and McKay, certain special reports having been obtained from Mr. W. E. Rowe, who was temporarily employed.

Reports have been obtained on the following mines:—

Antimony Lodes.

Hindon.
Stony Creek.

Copper Lodes.

Big Bay.
Dusky Sound.
Waitahuna.
Aniseed Valley.
" " (Johnston's).
Roding River.
Dun Mountain.

Chrome Lodes.

Ben Nevis.
Dun Mountain.
Aniseed Valley.

Auriferous Reefs.

Wairarapa.
Longwood Range.
Mount Ophir, Collingwood.
Mount Arthur.

Coal Seams.

Paringa River.
Springfield.
Motanau.

* For particulars see New Zealand Handbook and Appendix.