

SEVENTH MEETING. 23rd December, 1872.

His Honour T. B. Gillies in the chair.

New members.—G. Aickin, E. Gibbons, G. Fraser, W. Hay, A. Beetham, G. Kirton, W. Humphreys, J. Wilson, W. Ware, Lt.-Col. Nation.

The list of donations to the Library and Museum was read by the Secretary.

Mr. Gillies presented the original Ms. of a Maori poem, for the publication of which Mr. C. O. Davis was tried for sedition in 1865, and which might therefore be expected to become of historic interest.

Mr. Gillies called attention to a statement made by Dr. Hector in the fourth volume of *Transactions* (p. 379) respecting the first introduction of trout, from which it appeared that trout were first liberated in the North Island in November, 1871; the fact being that trout were first introduced into the North Island by the Auckland Acclimatization Society, and liberated near Auckland in October, 1870. He thought it possible that, unless corrected, this error might at some future day lead to misconception with regard to the rate of diffusion of this fish.

1. "Notes on Rurima Rocks," by Major W. G. Mair. (See *Transactions*, p. 151.)

The Hon. Col. Haultain corroborated the author's statement respecting the abundance of fish in the vicinity of the rocks.

2. "On the Mud Fish (*Neochanna apoda*), an extract from a letter written by G. G. Fitzgerald;" communicated by W. C. Roberts.

(ABSTRACT.)

The author noted that he had found several specimens of this curious fish, while trenching. A heavy rain fell, and on baling the water out he found three or four of the fish were left, which were thought to have fallen from the sky. The soil was only about six inches deep, the subsoil being very tenacious blue soil. The fish was found at least eighteen inches down in this clay, in a little chamber somewhat larger than its own carcase. The clay was damp, but there was no water about. The chamber was dry and completely shut in from above, a large root of a tree passing immediately over the spot.

3. "On the Mud-fish (*Neochanna apoda*); an extract from a letter written by S. E. Vollams;" communicated by W. C. Roberts.

(ABSTRACT.)

The author knew of this fish in the early days of Hokitika. The land where they were found was covered with the usual bush, and in rainy weather was always under water.