

FOURTH MEETING: 8th September, 1886.

Dr. Hector in the chair.

Papers.—1. "On Polynesian Folk-lore," by E. Tregear. (*Transactions* p. 486.)

2. "On a new Species of Moth, (*Pasiphila lichenodes*), by A. Purdie, M.A. (*Transactions*, p. 69.)

FIFTH MEETING: 20th October, 1886.

Dr. Hector in the chair.

New Member.—Mr. Hughes.

Papers.—1. "On the Waihao Greensands and their Relation to the Ototara Limestone," by Mr. McKay. (*Transactions*, p. 434.)

2. "On Tree Blight," by W. M. Maskell, F.R.M.S.

The author suggested that the Government be petitioned to take some immediate action in the matter, and try by every means to prevent the wholesale destruction of their trees by insects, etc. In his opinion it would be of far greater use to spend some of the vote to the Forest Department in preserving the trees, than in trying to plant olives in Auckland. He had been for some time trying to bring about some action in the matter, and he would move "That a deputation wait upon the Government and petition that something might be done."

Mr. Crawford seconded the resolution, which after discussion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Maskell proposed, and Mr. Chapman seconded, "That the Council of the Society be authorised to take steps to carry out this resolution."—Carried.

Exhibits.—(1.) A fine specimen of female salmon-trout which had been caught by Mr. Rutherford in the Hutt River, weighing 11 pounds, was exhibited by Dr. Hector. (2.) The Chairman exhibited a map of the recent earthquakes at Charlestown, which he had just received, and certain remarkable facts connected with them were discussed. (3.) A collection of fossils from Otago were also shown and described by Mr. McKay.

Dr. Hutchinson was nominated to vote in the election of Governors of the New Zealand Institute for the ensuing year.

SIXTH MEETING: 19th January, 1887.

Dr. Hector in the chair.

New Member.—Mr. J. Esdaile.

Papers.—1. "On a Common Vital Force," by Coleman Phillips.

ABSTRACT.

The author states that his paper contains a subject partaking rather of philosophical inquiry than strict scientific research. But as late discoveries, such as the theories of Darwin, tend in the one direction of asserting "the