

PHILOSOPHICAL INSTITUTE OF CANTERBURY.

FIRST MEETING : *2nd May, 1889.*

H. R. Webb, F.R.M.S., President, in the chair.

Paper.—"Notes on the Habits of the New Zealand Bush-rat," by J. Rutland; communicated by Professor F. W. Hutton. (*Transactions*, p. 300.)

At the close of the meeting Mr. H. O. Forbes, F.R.G.S., exhibited and made a few remarks on the shoulder-girdles of *Aptornis* and *Cnemiornis*. He pointed out that the bone described by Sir Richard Owen ("Extinct Birds of New Zealand," p. 377, and pl. ciii.) as the coracoid of *Cnemiornis* is in reality the coracoid of *Aptornis defossor*, and that the true coracoid of *Cnemiornis* closely resembles the same bone in *Cereopsis* and *Tachyeres*.

SECOND MEETING : *6th June, 1889.*

H. R. Webb, F.R.M.S., President, in the chair.

Paper.—"Note on the Geology of the Country about Lyell," by Professor F. W. Hutton. (*Transactions*, p. 387.)

This paper was illustrated by rock-sections for the microscope.

THIRD MEETING : *4th July, 1889.*

H. R. Webb, F.R.M.S., President, in the chair.

Professor Hutton gave an address entitled "Soils, and Geological Fertilizers." A considerable discussion followed.

Paper.—"On the Analysis of a Mineral Water from the Otira Gorge," by G. Gray. (*Transactions*, p. 495.)

FOURTH MEETING : *1st August, 1889.*

H. R. Webb, F.R.M.S., President, in the chair.

Mr. Forbes, F.R.G.S., delivered a popular lecture upon "The Physical Characters, Climate, Products, People, and Prospects of the British Possessions in New Guinea, with some Personal Experiences of Travel there."

The lecture was illustrated with lime-light views; and a number of ethnological and other specimens were exhibited.