

2. "On Sericulture," by F. Adams.

ABSTRACT.

The author quotes the opinions of Mr. Pozzi, formerly a silk grower in Canton Ticino, Switzerland, and now a resident in Christchurch, to the effect that the soil and climate of Canterbury is suitable for the establishment of silk culture, and recommending as a preliminary step, that mulberry trees should be extensively planted.

3. "On the study of the French and German languages," Paper II., by J. von Tunzelmann.

ANNUAL MEETING. 4th November, 1880.

E. DOBSON, President, in the chair.

PAPERS.

1. "On Problems of Cosmical Impact," by Professor A. W. Bickerton. (*Transactions*, p. 166.)

2. "On the Structure of *Hormosira billardieri*," by T. A. Mollet. (*Transactions*, p. 318.)

3. "Contributions to New Zealand Malacology," by Prof. F. W. Hutton. (*Transactions*, p. 200.)

ABSTRACT OF ANNUAL REPORT.

Nine ordinary and two special meetings have been held, at which twenty-eight papers have been read by thirteen authors, being the highest number of papers read in any one year since the founding of the Institute.

In addition to the ordinary meetings the Council organised a series of popular lectures, to which free admission was granted to each member and two friends. These lectures were, by the kind permission of the Board of Governors, delivered in the Science Lecture Theatre of Canterbury College, and were fairly attended. The lectures were as follows:—(1) On the Origin of Living Matter, by Professor F. W. Hutton; (2) on the Rambles of a Carbon Molecule, by Professor Bickerton; (3) on the Progress of Modern Photography, by Mr. N. K. Cherrill; (4) on House and Home, by the President; (5) on Raffaele and his Contemporaries, by Professor J. von Haast; (6) on the Telephone, by Mr. W. G. Meddings.

Thirty-two members have joined the Institute during the past year, and forty subscribers have withdrawn from subscribing, or have left the district, making the total number on the books at the present time 211.

The accounts show total receipts for the year of £345 0s. 2d., with a balance in hand at its close of £7 6s. 9d., the sum of £195 7s. 8d. having been devoted to the purchase of books and instruments.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1881:—*President*—Prof. J. von Haast, F.R.S., *Vice-presidents*—Rev. J. W. Stack, R. W. Fereday; *Council*—Prof. A. W. Bickerton, J. Inglis, E. Dobson, T. S. Lambert, N. K. Cherrill; *Hon. Treasurer*—W. M. Maskell; *Hon. Secretary*—G. Gray; *Auditors*—C. R. Blackiston, W. D. Carruthers.