

mouth to mouth, and relating tales of his fishing adventures, which in length and variety resembled those of Sinbad the Sailor. The President then proceeded to review at some length the question of the "Whence" of the Maori race.

ABSTRACT OF ANNUAL REPORT.

A preliminary meeting to the formation of the Society was held in April last, and on the 25th May another meeting was held, when it was unanimously affirmed:—(1) That there be formed in this district a Society devoted to the promotion of Science, Philosophy, Literature, and Art; (2) That those present, viz., Messrs J. T. Thomson, J. C. Thomson, Spence, Greig, Lee-Smith, Goyen, Rev. J. Paterson, Dr. Galbraith, are *ipso facto* members of such Society; (3) That the Society be named the Southland Institute.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1880:—*President*—J. T. Thomson, F.R.G.S. *Vice-president*—W. Stuart; *Hon. Treasurer*—J. C. Thomson; *Hon. Secretary*—P. Goyer; *Council*—Rev. J. Paterson, Dr. Galbraith, Messrs. Spence, Cuthbertson, Scandrett.

The Society began with 18 members, and it now numbers 66. The first ordinary meeting of the Society was held on the 5th July. Since then three meetings have been held, and four papers read.

In accordance with No. 7 of the regulations, several works of reference and a few scientific journals have been ordered from England.

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SECOND MEETING. 3rd August, 1880.

J. T. THOMSON, President, in the chair.

*New Members*.—Dr. Hanan, Rev. James Henry.

PAPERS.

1. "On Orepuki Black Sand," by W. S. Hamilton.
2. "On Mind Stuff," by J. T. Thomson.

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THIRD MEETING. 1st September, 1880.

J. T. THOMSON, President, in the Chair.

*New Members*.—T. Wakelin, W. Hay, W. Darley, J. Gurr, R. Tapper,

PAPER.

1. "On the Cause of Gravitation," by T. Wakelin, read by the Secretary. (*Transactions*, p. 122.)

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FOURTH MEETING. 13th October, 1880.

J. R. CUTHBERTSON, in the chair.

PAPER.

1. "On Improvements in the New River," by J. T. Thomson.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1881:—*President*—J. T. Thomson; *Vice-president*—Dr. Galbraith; *Council*—J. R. Cuthbertson, J. H. Kerr, W. S. Scandrett, J. Spence, W. Stuart; *Hon. Treasurer*—J. C. Thomson; *Hon. Secretary*—P. Goyer.

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