

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. 21st February, 1881.

REV. DR. PURCHAS, President, in the chair.

New Members.—F. H. Combes, W. F. Hammond, Jas. Stodart.

The minutes of the last annual general meeting, held 16th February, 1880, were read and confirmed.

ABSTRACT OF ANNUAL REPORT.

During the past year thirty additional members have been elected since the last annual meeting. Three names have been removed by death, five have been transferred to other branches of the New Zealand Institute, while seventeen members have either left the colony or ceased to subscribe. The total number on the register is now 277. The ordinary meetings for the reading of papers have been held as usual, and were fairly attended. With the view of attracting attention to the society, and possibly adding to the list of members, the Council arranged for the delivery of a series of popular lectures by various gentlemen, to alternate with the regular meetings. The attendance at the lectures was remarkably good, and much public interest was evinced in them.

LIBRARY.—The scientific and reference library of the Institute is fast attaining respectable proportions, and now contains over 1,400 volumes of well-selected works. During the year a grant of £57 10s. has been received under the provisions of the Public Libraries Subsidies Act. The Council have to acknowledge the receipt of £50 from the City Council as some reimbursement for the expense of maintaining the Public Library during the four years that it has been under the care of the Institute.

The balance-sheet showed the receipts to be £601 13s. 9d. including the balance of £17 8s. 10d. carried from last year's accounts. The expenditure amounted to £594 6s. 0d.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1881:—*President*—T. Peacock; *Council*—G. Aicken, Rev. J. Bates, J. L. Campbell, M.D., J. C. Firth, Hon. Colonel Haultain, Neil Heath, F.G.S., E. A. Machechnie, J. Martin, F.G.S., J. A. Pond, Rev. A. G. Purchas, S. P. Smith; *Auditor*—T. Macffarlane; *Secretary and Treasurer*—T. F. Cheeseman, F.L.S.
