

# AUCKLAND INSTITUTE.

FIRST MEETING. 29th May, 1882.

E. A. Mackechnie, President, in the chair.

*New Members.*—R. Anderson, J. Banks, R. Browning, C. E. Bourne, F. E. Compton, J. M. Dargaville, N. Giblin, E. W. Hanmer, A. G. Horton, A. E. Isaacs, Dr. Kenderdine, Dr. Kidd, A. H. Nathan, J. M. Shera, C. B. Stone, W. Thorne, H. J. Wickens.

1. The President delivered the anniversary address.

2. "On some recent Additions to the Flora of New Zealand," by T. F. Cheeseman, F.L.S." (*Transactions*, p. 298.)

3. "Additions to the *Geodephaga* of New Zealand," by Captain T. Broun, M.E.S.

SECOND MEETING. 26th June, 1882.

E. A. Mackechnie, President, in the chair.

*New Members.*—C. Cooper, A. Grey, T. Melville.

1. "New Species of *Pselaphida*," by Capt. T. Broun, M.E.S.

2. "On the Protective Resemblances of the *Araneidea* in New Zealand," by A. T. Urquhart. (*Transactions*, p. 174.)

3. "Notes on the Origin of Language," by H. G. Seth Smith.

4. Mr. H. G. Seth Smith exhibited a harmonograph for producing harmonic curves.

## ABSTRACT.

The construction of the instrument is such that a finely-pointed glass pen, placed at the junction of two cranks proceeding from the top of two pendulums vibrating at right-angles to one another, traces curves on a sheet of paper. Attention was drawn to the endless variety of curves produced by varying the length of one of the pendulums; and it was pointed out that the curves were then only symmetrical when the ratio of the times of vibration corresponded to a definite interval in music, as a third, fifth, octave, etc. In other cases asymmetrical figures were produced.

THIRD MEETING. 31st July, 1882.

E. A. Mackechnie, President, in the chair.

*New Members.*—F. Lawry, J. Street.

1. "New Genera and Species of *Heteromera*," by Capt. T. Broun, M.E.S.

2. "On some recent Additions to the Flora of New Zealand," by T. F. Cheeseman, F.L.S. (*Transactions*, p. 298.)