

and pointed out that the island was being gradually rendered less suitable for the preservation of the New Zealand fauna. At the annual meeting a resolution was passed requesting the Council to urge the Government to complete the purchase; and, in response to this, a deputation of the whole Council waited on the Premier, fully explaining the position of affairs, and the necessity for immediate action. The Premier expressed himself as being anxious and willing to expedite the purchase, and engaged that if the native owners continued to refuse reasonable terms a Bill would be introduced into Parliament providing for the compulsory purchase of the island at a fair valuation. This has since been done, and it is now stated that the Native Land Court has fixed the amount payable to the owners. Probably no long period will elapse before the Government will be the sole owner of the island. If so, the Council trust that no time will then be lost in removing the few Maoris still resident on the island, and in furnishing the caretaker with full powers to prevent unauthorized persons from landing.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1895.—*President*—Professor A. P. Thomas, F.L.S.; *Vice-president*—J. H. Upton; *Council*—Rev. J. Bates, W. Berry, Professor F. D. Brown, F.C.S., E. A. Mackechnie, G. Mueller, T. Peacock, J. A. Pond, T. H. Smith, J. Stewart, C.E., Professor H. A. Tubbs, E. Withy; *Trustees*—E. A. Mackechnie, S. P. Smith, F.R.G.S., T. Peacock; *Secretary and Treasurer*—T. F. Cheeseman, F.L.S., F.Z.S.; *Auditor*—W. Gorrie.