

*Papers.*—1. Professor Parker gave an account of the leading structural peculiarities of a large sun-fish (*Orthogoriscus mola*) captured in the Upper Harbour in March last, and lately mounted for exhibition in the Museum. The specimen is 8ft. 6in. in length, 6ft. in height, and 11ft. from tip of dorsal to tip of ventral fin. It weighed  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tons. The anterior contour is characterized by a gently-curved projection above the mouth, from the dorsal end of which there is a backward slope to the middle line of the back. Below the mouth is a similar chin-like projection. Two strong, deep, horizontal ridges run along each side of the trunk, one above, the other below, the branchial aperture and pectoral fin.

The brain and spinal cord were exhibited (together they are not more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. in length); also sections, in alcohol, of the skull and fin-rays, showing the very incomplete ossification of the cartilage. On the skin were found numerous specimens of the parasitic copepod *Lepeophtheirus nordmanni*. The intestine contained immense numbers of a species of *Tænia*, and a *Distoma*.

2. "Notes from Murihiku: being a Description of some Rock Pictographs on the Waitaki, and Notes on a Maori Kete containing Textile Fabrics and Materials," by A. Hamilton, (*Transactions*, p. 169.)

Mr. G. M. Thomson gave a verbal report of the work done since the last meeting by the Fisheries Committee.

He stated that a meeting had been held between the committee, the council of the Acclimatisation Society, and the members of the General Assembly resident in Dunedin, at which it was resolved to impress strongly upon the Government the desirability of establishing a fish-hatchery at Purakanui, as proposed by the committee. Mr. Thomson also stated that he had written to the Chairman of the Scottish Fisheries Board and to the United States Commissioner for Fisheries for certain specific information on the matter.

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### THIRD MEETING: 14th July, 1896.

Mr. A. Hamilton, President, in the chair.

*New Members.*—John Angus, D. Clarke, J. T. Bryant, J. Langmuir, J. Skottowe Webb.

*Paper.*—"Review of the Theories that have been advanced to account for the Occurrence of Gold in Auriferous Lodes," by J. R. Don, D.Sc.

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