

Sir James Hector, in proposing a vote of thanks to the President for his most interesting address, reminded members that within the last few months they had been indebted to Mr. Tregear for a most useful addition to New Zealand scientific literature in his comparative "Dictionary of the Polynesian Languages." His address showed that outside mere philology Mr. Tregear was able to take a wide grasp of the great problem of anthropology. With the President's permission he took this opportunity of introducing Professor Pond, who had just arrived from Cambridge to take the classical chair in the New Zealand University at Auckland.

Professor Pond considered it a high honour that he should, on his first landing, have the opportunity of attending the meeting of such a Society. He complimented Mr. Tregear on the admirable arrangement of his new dictionary—the method was excellent. He was told at Cambridge before leaving that he ought to consider it a high privilege, his being selected for his appointment in the New Zealand University, as the examiners in England thought most highly of the work done by the New Zealand students.

Mr. Travers seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried, and spoke in flattering terms of the able manner in which Mr. Tregear treated the subject of his address.

2. Sir James Hector exhibited a young salmon which had been caught in the Aparima River and forwarded to him by the Marine Department. He said that there could not possibly be any mistake with regard to the specimen being a true salmon. The fact that salmon, after years of fruitless experiments, had now been acclimatised was highly satisfactory, though he feared that the formation of our coast-line was such as would prevent the return of salmon to their own rivers. Should, however, the salmon prove their attachment to the streams in which they were hatched, the colony would have gained a most valuable asset, and one which it would be well to protect with the greatest care.

3. Sir James Hector exhibited samples of the different coals and rocks from the coalfields lately visited. With reference to the Black Ball Mine, a tunnel of 1,230ft. had been driven to reach the coal, and two seams had been cut of first-class-quality coal, making a total of about 20ft. thick of coal. Samples of the rocks from the tunnel were also described. Samples of the coal from the new Cardiff and Mokihinui Company's lease were exhibited, and also samples from the Kaitangata Mine, Otago; and a number of fossils found in sinking the Castle Hill Company's shaft at Kaitangata were also on the table and described. Samples of coal from Orepuki were shown, together with a series of fossils from the Middle Wai-para, in the northern district of Canterbury. These latter were described as being geologically of very great importance, on account of the presence of *Belemnites australis* in association with dicotyledonous leaves, and in the same boulders remains of *Leiodon hawmuriensis*, this being the first time that these Secondary fossils have been found in the Canterbury District.