

NELSON INSTITUTE.

ABSTRACT OF ANNUAL REPORT.

The receipts for the year ended 31st December, 1901, from all sources (including balance, £65 11s. 4d., brought forward) amounted to £292 11s. 11d., an increase of £56 4s. over the receipts for the previous year. The expenditure amounted to £273 4s. 11d., leaving a credit balance of £19 7s.

The free reading-room, which was opened for the use of the public shortly before our last annual meeting, has undoubtedly met a want much felt by the reading public, and it is evident from the large number of readers frequenting the room that the action of the committee in this direction is fully appreciated.

The sum of £99 8s. 10d. has been spent on books, about a hundred and eighty volumes having been purchased during the year.

The administration of the Institute endowments is in a satisfactory condition.

During the past year the amalgamation of the Philosophical Society with the Institute has taken place, and this Society has taken over the charge of the Museum, and the Nelson Philosophical Library is now merged in the library of the Nelson Institute.

After the amalgamation of the societies had been effected this Society applied to the New Zealand Institute for affiliation, and the request has been granted. A scientific branch of the Institute has been formed, with an additional subscription of 5s. per annum, which will confer the privilege of receiving the "Transactions of the New Zealand Institute." Many members have availed themselves of this arrangement.

The committee desire to record their thanks to those members who have presented newspapers and periodicals, and to those who have generously presented books, and again express their appreciation of the efficient and zealous manner in which the duties of librarian have been performed by Miss Reeves.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1902.—*President*—H. W. Robinson; *Vice-president*—D. Grant; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*—A. J. Redgrave; *Acting-Curator of Museum*—W. F. Morley; *Librarian*—B. Reeves.