

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Nova Scotian Institute of Natural Science.

VOL. IV. PART IV.

Provincial Museum, Oct. 10, 1877.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

WILLIAM GOSSIP, ESQ., *Vice-President, in the Chair.*

Inter alia.

The following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year :—

President—J. B. GILPIN, B. A., M. D., M. R. C. S.

Vice-Presidents—WILLIAM GOSSIP, ESQ., F. ALLISON, M. A.

Treasurer—W. C. SILVER, ESQ.

Joint Secretaries—REV. D. HONEYMAN, D. C. L., JOHN T. MELLISH, M. A.

Council—A. P. REID, M. D., J. R. DEWOLFE, M. D., ROBERT MORROW, J. SOMMERS, M. D., HON. L. G. POWER, PROF. LAWSON, AUGUSTUS ALLISON, J. M. JONES.

ORDINARY MEETING, November 12, 1877.

DR. J. B. GILPIN, *President, in the Chair.*

MAJOR KING, Royal Artillery, who had been absent from the Province for some years, was re-admitted as a member of the Institute.

The REV. DR. HONEYMAN read a paper entitled—1. Geology of Halifax, 2. Geology of Nictaux,—which was replete with information of interest to Geologists.

MR. H. S. POOLE and MR. GOSSIP made some remarks on the subject.

DR. SOMMERS exhibited some feet of sheep with holes similar to those found in the feet of the moose.

ORDINARY MEETING, December 10, 1877.

The PRESIDENT *in the Chair.*

The SECRETARY announced that the Council had elected, as members of the Institute, DR. H. A. BAYNE, of the Halifax High School, and DR. J. MCKENZIE, of Dalhousie College.

The PRESIDENT exhibited a specimen of abnormal growth of considerable size on the hind leg of a moose, and explained the probable cause of it.

MR. MELLISH stated that he had seen a similar growth on the fore leg of a living moose, caused by injury sustained when the animal was snared.

MR. ROBERT MORROW exhibited a peculiarly shaped oyster shell, which had been attached to a vessel—adhering in the angle formed by the keel and the bottom of the ship.

DR. SOMMERS read a paper "On the Mosses of Nova Scotia," illustrating his subject by diagrams and specimens. (*See Transactions.*)

ORDINARY MEETING, January 14, 1878.

The PRESIDENT *in the Chair.*

PROF. LAWSON read a paper by PROF. HOW, of King's College, Windsor, "On the East India Herbarium of King's College." The subject was regarded as of considerable interest to Botanists. (*See Transactions.*)

MR. H. S. POOLE, Inspector of Mines, delivered a lecture on "Bell's Telephone." The illustrations were interesting, and the operating of the Telephone very satisfactory.

ORDINARY MEETING, February 11, 1878.

The PRESIDENT *in the Chair.*

It was announced that Messrs. JOHN BRUNTON, J. M. GELBERT, JOSEPH OÜTRAM, SEYMOUR SCOTT and W. HARRINGTON had been elected members of the Institute; and MR. HENRY LOUIS, of Londonderry Mines, an Associate Member.

MR. EDWIN GILPIN, M. A., read an instructive paper, "On the necessity for preliminary scientific training for Civil and Mining Engineers." Drs. REID and SOMMERS, and Messrs. GOSSIP and FAIRBANKS made some remarks on the subject of MR. GILPIN's paper. (*See Transactions.*)

MR. J. T. MELLISH, M. A., read a paper on "Acadian History—L'Isle de St. Jean." DR. GILPIN referred to the importance of treasuring such historical facts as Mr. Mellish had collected.

ORDINARY MEETING, March 11, 1878.

The PRESIDENT *in the Chair.*

The SECRETARY stated that DR. BROOKFIELD, of England, had been elected an Associate Member of the Institute.

Geological Reports from British Columbia and Ontario were laid on the table.

MAJOR KING, R. A., presented the Institute with the Journal of the Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall Yard.

The PRESIDENT exhibited a tooth taken from the skull of a beaver, which

had grown round inwards until the point had met against the roof of the mouth and caused death. The immediate cause of this abnormal growth was explained to be the previous loss of a lower tooth directly opposite.

W. GOSSIP, Esq., Vice-President, having been called to the Chair, the PRESIDENT delivered an interesting lecture, "On the Wild Ducks of Nova Scotia." A number of beautiful specimens were exhibited, and their peculiarities and differences minutely described. (*See Transactions.*)

After remarks by DR. SOMMERS, Messrs. SILVER, MORROW and GOSSIP, the meeting adjourned.

ORDINARY MEETING, April 8, 1878.

The PRESIDENT *in the Chair.*

DR. REID read a paper "On the relations between Labour and Science," which elicited considerable discussion.

MR. ROBERT MORROW then read an instructive paper (being a translation from Camper by MR. MORROW himself), "On the Bones of Birds." Drs. GILPIN, SOMMERS, Messrs. GOSSIP, J. M. JONES and JOHN FORBES, each made observations on the subject. (*See Transactions.*)

The SECRETARY laid on the table:—

1. A volume containing Reports of the Palaeontology of the Fortieth Parallel, presented by CLARENCE KING, U. S. Geologist.
2. Memoir by DR. SCUDDER, "On Fossil Myriopoda of Nova Scotia, &c.," presented by the Boston Natural History Society.

ORDINARY MEETING, May 13, 1878.

The PRESIDENT *in the Chair.*

Reports were laid on the table—(1) Of the Geological Survey of the United States, and (2) Of the Institutes of Natural Science in Iowa and Minnesota.

MR. THOMAS FYSHE was elected a member of the Institute.

MR. FREDERICK ALLISON, M. A., read his report of the Meteorology of Nova Scotia for 1877. Mr. Allison's paper embodied conclusions drawn from a long series of observations respecting our climate, of a most valuable character. (*See Transactions.*)

MR. GOSSIP and MR. MELLISH followed with some observations.

MR. H. S. POOLE then read a paper by MR. H. LOUIS, of Londonderry Mines, "On Nova Scotia Mineralogy," and exhibited several specimens of minerals recently found. (*See Transactions.*)