

FIFTH MEETING. 3rd June, 1880.

E. DOBSON, President, in the Chair.

New Members.—T. Crook, J. Crosby, W. D. Meares, W. H. Pilliet, F. Valentine, Dr. J. Irving.

PAPERS.

1. "On the *Orthoptera* of New Zealand," by Professor F. W. Hutton.
2. "Notes *re* Metereological Stations," by W. M. Maskell.

ABSTRACT.

The author pointed out that owing to the rapid growth of plantations around Christchurch, the situation of the Metereological Observatory has ceased to give a *satisfactory* average for the climate of the Canterbury Plains, and suggests the establishment of additional stations in other parts of the district.

3. "On Partial Impact," by Professor Bickerton.

SIXTH MEETING. 1st July, 1880.

Professor J. VON HAAST, Vice-president, in the Chair.

New Members.—C. Clark, W. Sparks, Jun., J. B. Stansell, J. R. Thornton, Mrs. Innes, E. M. Clissold, Professor Haslam, C. B. Taylor.

PAPERS.

1. "On *Harpagornis*," by Professor J. von Haast. (*Transactions*, p. 169.)

2. "On New and Rare New Zealand Plants," by J. B. Armstrong. (*Transactions*, p. 335.)

3. "On a New Species of Diatom," by J. Inglis.

Nitzschia novæ-zealandia.

Frustule.—Front view linear, narrowing at the truncated extremities, opposite side of each end obliquely sloping. *Valve.*—Linear on side view and sigmoid, attenuated towards the extremities and rounded at the ends. One row of puncta round the margin of the valve. *Puncta.*—There are twenty-four puncta or beads to one thousand of an inch.

I have been unable to make out any striae or keel under "Becks" one-tenth immersion.

The valves of *Nitzschia novæ-zealandia* resemble *Homococladia sigmoidea*, but the latter is frondose, and the frustules are sigmoidal on the front view, while the former is free and sigmoidal on the side view.

I found this Diatom in quantities, during the months of April and May, in a spring at Nga Pari, on the side of the North Moeraki Downs, facing the River Ashley.

I am indebted to Professor Hutton for the verification of this description.