

Manifoldness of two Dimensions and of Finite Extent,''' by W. Skey. (*Transactions*, p. 100).

Mr. Frankland replied to Mr. Skey's objections, and said that he was glad this paper had been written, as it would afford him an opportunity of bringing forward his views on the subject more fully.

Dr. Hector exhibited recent additions to the Museum, comprising a series of fishes from Japan, presented by the Hon Mr. Waterhouse; a series of the fishes sold in the Melbourne markets; birds and seals from the Auckland Islands; collection of tapa cloth, showing the process of manufacture; and sugar grown in Fiji, presented by the Commissioner for Fiji at the Sydney Exhibition; a specimen of *Molock horridus*, the horned lizard of Australia, presented by Dr. Ralph, of Melbourne. Dr. Hector explained that this lizard is probably the living representative of a gigantic extinct dragon, lately found in Queensland, the bones of which he had seen, and recognised their affinity, before they were sent to Professor Owen by Dr. Bennett, in October last. He had just received a copy of Professor Owen's paper containing the description read before the Royal Society, which confirmed this identification. Lastly, attention was directed to the large geological collection made during last year—in the South by Mr. McKay, and in the North by Mr. Cox, among which occurred new and valuable minerals which may prove of great economic importance.

SECOND MEETING. 20th July, 1880.

Mr. Martin Chapman, President, in the chair.

New Members.—Mr. Daniel Maunsell, and Mr. E. H. Williams.

PAPERS.

1. "On introduced trees and plants of economic value to New Zealand," by Dr. Curl, F.L.S., of Rangitikei.

ABSTRACT.

The author gave the result of his experimental culture of a large number of different fruit trees and other plants, the introduction of which he considered of value to New Zealand. He showed that a much greater variety were suitable to the soil and climate than was generally supposed, and that if the settlers devoted attention to such cultivation they would add greatly to the resources of the country, and to the profitable employment of their industry. He has found that a great many kinds of the vine can be cultivated with success, and that even if wine could not be successfully made, the crop of grapes would yield a large profit if converted into raisins by the artificial drying process adopted in California. He has succeeded in growing twelve kinds of fruit trees from Japan, which promise good results. In illustration of the importance of the subject, he quoted the enormous sums of money obtained in other countries by the systematic cultivation of fruits.

Dr. Hector thought the paper valuable and suggestive, and pointed out that in the North Island the settlers coming from Great Britain would have to rely upon many kinds of produce with which they were unfamiliar in the old country, if the best resources of the country were to be developed.

Mr. Lee was glad to know that the cultivation of fruit was attracting some attention at last, as it was a valuable source of income, peculiarly adapted to the circumstances of small settlers.