

REPORTS

OF THE

COUNCIL AND AUDITORS

OF

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

OF LONDON,

READ AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

APRIL 29, 1836.

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1836.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

IN making to this Annual General Meeting the Report required by the By-Laws, on the progress of the Society during the past year and on its general concerns, it is gratifying to the Council to have again to announce a continuance of that prosperity which has hitherto invariably attended the institution. In the last year, as in all previous years, there has been a considerable accession of new Members, and an increase of the Society's means of promoting the objects contemplated by its Charter: in the year 1835, as in each of the more recent years of the Society's existence, there was also an improvement, to a marked extent, in the Society's financial condition. Extraordinary expenditure to a considerable amount which has been incurred, in the earlier months of 1836, for the advancement of two highly important objects hereafter to be referred to, has prevented the financial improvement from extending over the whole interval between the present and the last Anniversary; but the Council entertain hopes, notwithstanding the diminished balance that exists on this day as compared with the last Anniversary, that should the principal of the Society's undertakings in the current year prove successful, the year 1836 will also, like its predecessors, be found to have added to the Invested Capital of the Institution.

The increase in the number of

Members

which has taken place within the year, has been in those two important and useful classes, the Fellows and the Cor-

responding Members. The Honorary and the Foreign Members remain as at the last Anniversary.

The number of Fellows elected into the Society since April, 1835, is 289; and the number of which it has been deprived by death is 59, and by resignation, 37. The number of actual Fellows has been further reduced, at the commencement of 1836, by the removal, in conformity with the By-Law which then, for the first time, came into operation, of no fewer than 127; being the whole of those whose subscriptions due prior to 1835 remained at that time unpaid: of these, however, 8, who have since paid the amounts severally due by them, have been restored by the Council. Notwithstanding these numerous removals, the actual number of Fellows and Fellows Elect amounts, on the present day, to 2878. The candidates for the Fellowship now on the books are 70.

On the subject of

Finance,

the Council would, in the first instance, direct the attention of the Members to the Report of the Auditors of the Accounts; in which will be found an Abstract of the Receipts and Expenditure of the Society during the year 1835, under each of the general heads of the Ledger. From the remarks subjoined by the Auditors to their general Finance Statement, it will be seen that the Income of the Society in 1835 fell short of that of 1834 by about £800, a diminution chiefly owing, as they observe, to the diminished amount received as Compositions from the Fellows in lieu of their Annual Contributions: and that the Expenditure of 1835 exceeded that of 1834 by about £350. On reference to the particular items of the Accounts, it will appear that the increased expenditure of the last year has been principally in the Gardens, and chiefly under the head of Works and Buildings. These, as they have included a considerable extent of fencing for the newly acquired Pasturage Ground, a portion of the recently erected Elephant House, and much general drain-

age and ventilation, in addition to several minor works and to the ordinary operations in this department, have necessarily been much more costly than usual: but the consequences of them will doubtless be beneficial both to the Gardens and to the Menagerie, and will thus compensate for the additional outlay that has been incurred on their account.

The Auditors have further remarked, that the general result of the financial operations of the past year shows an improvement of about £2000, as compared with the Assets and Liabilities of the preceding year. The precise improvement, as deduced from a comparison of the Auditors' Reports of the two years, being £2034 13s. 4d.; and the improvement in the four preceding years, as stated in the last Report of the Council, having been £9164 17s. 1d.; the total improvement in the financial condition of the Society in the five years prior to 1836, has consequently amounted to £11,199 10s. 5d.

The Auditors have also shown, by a statement in their Report, that the Council have steadily persevered, throughout the year 1835, in the highly advantageous plan, commenced in July, 1831, of investing one fifth of the Receipts of the Society; and that the amount invested within that year, principally in Reduced 3 per Cents., and partly in the works connected with the Well, has exceeded by nearly £200 the amount accruing due to the Investment Fund within the year. There yet remains, however, a considerable sum due to the Fund on account of deficient investments in former years: and, with the engagements at present entered into, it is doubtful whether any large proportion of it can be invested in the current year. It is also doubtful whether, in the current year, the system of investment must not be considered as temporarily suspended; the unavoidable expenditure for the two great undertakings at present in progress, being so heavy as to require very large returns as a counterpoise to the outlay.

Although the subjects, strictly speaking, belong to other heads than the one now under consideration, they are yet so intimately connected with the exposition of the Society's financial condition, that it is desirable to advert in this place to the Giraffes and to the New Museum, the acquisition of which has led to the extraordinary expenditure more especially referred to. The payments required on these accounts, at a season when the Income of the Society is comparatively small, rendered it necessary that a portion of the Invested Capital should be disposed of; and the Council have accordingly been compelled to have recourse to that fund for an advance to the amount of £2000. In accordance with the principle before laid down, with reference to the disposal of any portion of that fund, the Council reported to a General Meeting of the Society, previously to giving orders for the sale of it, the necessity that existed for an advance from that source, and stated that the proceeds of the sale must be considered as a loan to be repaid at the earliest opportunity. The same steps were adopted on the only other occasion on which a portion of the Invested Capital has been sold; this occurred in December, 1833, and the amount then raised was replaced before the Anniversary Meeting in the following year.

Taking into account the whole of the existing liabilities, including the engagements entered into for the importation of the Giraffes, and for the greater part of the fittings of the New Museum, the financial condition of the Society at this moment may be stated at about £2100 short of its condition at the same period of the last year: a diminution of the balance in its favour, dependent on the outlay for those two extraordinary undertakings, which amounts at the present time to nearly £4000; the payments already made and the liabilities incurred on account of the Giraffes being nearly £2000, and those on account of the Museum approaching very closely to the same sum.

The Council deem it necessary to advert particularly to

one other payment which has been made since the period at which the Report of the Auditors terminates: they allude to the

Well,

the final charges for the formation of which, and for the works connected with it, have now been settled.

In their last Report, they stated generally the inducements which had led to the determination of endeavouring to obtain, for the use of the Gardens, an independent supply of water from the deep springs, and described the steps which had been taken with the view of securing it. They reported also, that success had so far attended the operation that, for four months previously to the last Anniversary, the whole of the water used in the Gardens had been derived from the Well. Twelve additional months have now elapsed, and they are still enabled, with one brief exception, to repeat the same gratifying statement. There have been some difficulties, from time to time, throughout the year; but such, it is believed, are attendant on the earlier period of all works of this description. In this particular instance, it is probable that they were increased, at the commencement, by the neglect that resulted from the bankruptcy of the contractors, which occurred shortly after the time when their contract should have been completed. Delays and uncertainties were the natural consequence of their failure; and when, at length, the Society was under the necessity of putting an end to the contract, and of charging other engineers with the completion of the works, it was found that so much required to be altered and amended and replaced, that the cost of finishing the Well and machinery exceeded by rather more than £100 the amount reserved from the sum contracted for. The whole amount has, however, now been paid; and the total cost of the work has thus been ascertained to be £1920 18s. 10d. The annual cost of the working may probably be estimated, independent of repairs to the machinery, at £165; a sum, it must be remarked, considerably exceeding that

at which all the annual expenses were engaged for in the original contract, but which includes only the wages of a working engineer, the fuel, and the few trifling articles required to keep the engine and pumps in working order.

The incidental difficulties that have occurred in the works, have depended on the influx of sand into the bore-pipe, by which it has occasionally become so choked as to prevent the flow of water through it. On more than one occasion the water has, after the delay of a few days, forced its way through the obstruction: on others it has been necessary to employ workmen to remove the mass of dense matter by which the passage was impeded. To prevent, as much as possible, a recurrence of this evil, and to secure also a more free and certain spring, the boring was resumed last year, and was carried through the bed of sand lying under the plastic clay, and continued on to the face of the chalk, the layer of flints on the upper surface of which was broken through. The additional depth thus bored, was 30 feet; and the total depth from the surface is consequently 220 feet.

From the occasional interruptions that have taken place in the supply of water from the well, no serious inconvenience has, however, been at any time experienced. But in one instance, which occurred in the extreme drought of the last summer, so much anxiety was felt by the Council, that they applied for aid from the Regent's Canal Company. With a promptitude and liberality that merit the warmest thanks of the Society, the Directors of that Company instantly and gratuitously granted the assistance asked for; and not only authorized the pumping from the Canal, by manual labour, of as much water as was required, but even supplied the machinery requisite on the occasion. Although the well was very soon afterwards reestablished in working order, the temporary supply thus liberally afforded was most opportune and valuable, both with reference to the beauty of the Gardens and to the health of the animals.

The Council cannot conclude the portion of their Report, which relates more particularly to that subject, without referring to the aid afforded to them, in the examination of accounts and tenders, by the

Committee of Finance,

the Members of which have throughout the year diligently and carefully fulfilled the task entrusted to them, and have merited, by their attention to the interests of the Society, the best thanks of the Members.

The Publications

since the last Anniversary have comprised the Proceedings of the Scientific Meetings for the several months; and the Fourth Part of the Transactions, completing the First Volume of that work. The First Part of the Second Volume of the Transactions is now far advanced through the press, and will very shortly be ready for publication. The communication of these works to the learned bodies of this and of other countries, and the transmission of the Proceedings to the Corresponding Members, have taken place, as heretofore, when opportunities have offered. The Proceedings have also been delivered to all those Members who have applied for them.

It is almost superfluous to remark, that the care bestowed by the Committee of Publication on the superintendence of these works, and the diligence with which it has attended to its other duties, are such as to claim for its Members the best thanks of the Society.

THE GARDENS

have fully maintained in the last year the attractiveness that has hitherto distinguished them. The floral department especially has been cultivated with increased attention, and the embellishment afforded by the continued succession that

has been maintained of rare and beautiful flowers has been of the most pleasing and generally interesting kind.

The Receipts from

Admissions to the Gardens

amounted in 1835 to £7343 6s. In the previous year, the receipts from the same source were £7545 1s. But notwithstanding the small diminution thus shown in the number of paying

Visitors to the Gardens,

the actual number of Visitors in 1835 exceeded that of 1834 by 1485. The total number of visits to the Gardens in the last year was 210,068.

The most important of the

Works

of the past year has been the erection of a spacious House for the Elephant and the Rhinoceros; animals of high value and of immense power, and consequently requiring that adequate accommodation should be provided for them in a building of greater strength and extent than that in which they had previously been confined. The newly erected house affords ample space for the animals, and for visitors; and is very substantially built of timber saturated in Kyan's solution, as a preservative against the dry rot. Considerable attention has been paid in its construction to the securing of good ventilation: and the warming of it has been in a great measure effected on a plan suggested by Mr. Barber Beaumont, and previously adopted at the County Fire Office, the chimney being carried round the building beneath the incombustible floor, and the whole of the heat being thus given out within the house itself, instead of escaping in a great degree, as is usual in straight vertical chimneys, with the strong current of air passing rapidly through them.

A consequence of the erection of the new Elephant House

has been the completion, on a permanent plan, of the Fence of the adjoining Paddock, a portion of which had hitherto been only of a temporary character. It has also been found necessary to form two dry yards adjoining to the building for the use of the animals at seasons when the ordinary paddock would be too wet for their reception. These having now been completed, and the walks and grass-plots in the vicinity having been put into order, the whole of this extensive work may be regarded as finished.

Another work of magnitude has been the formation of a line of strained wire fence to separate the Pasturage Ground from the South Garden, and of two transverse lines for its subdivision into paddocks: a third transverse line near the eastern end of the Pasturage Ground has been contracted for, and will soon be completed. The protection of the Pasturage Ground from the adjoining Mall has been effected by the continuation to its extremity of the strained wire fence, bordering the South Garden in the same direction; and within this a hedge has been planted. With the view of improving the quality of the herbage, a system of drainage has been established in one part of the Pasturage, and in others various top dressings have been used: each of these plans being regarded, at present, as an experiment, the comparative result of which will serve as a guide for future proceedings.

Among the minor works may be enumerated the erection of three sheds, for the protection of Zebras or the larger Deer, near the Pheasantries in the North Garden; and the extensive repairs, amounting almost to a restoration, of the Eagles' Aviary. The application of improved principles of ventilation to a very large proportion of the existing buildings was also effected during the last autumn.

A Turnstile Gate of Exit from the South Garden, at its south-eastern angle, into the adjoining Mall, which was completed in the last autumn, has been a considerable convenience to many of the Members and Visitors: and it has been

attempted to diminish the crowd at the entrance to the Gardens, and the consequent obstruction to passengers, by providing inclosures adjoining to the Lodges, for the purpose of affording accommodation to Servants in waiting on Members and their friends. On several of the more crowded Sundays of the last summer, the number of Members and their friends who visited the Gardens exceeded 3000 on each day.

The

Menagerie

has throughout the year continued to exhibit a collection of living animals remarkable for its extent, variety, and interest. The number of individuals has generally exceeded 1000: on the present day it amounts, exclusive of the Water-fowl on the Lake in the Regent's Park, to 995; of which 269 are *Mammalia*, 704 *Birds*, and 22 *Reptiles*.

The

List of the Animals exhibited,

for the first time, in 1835, comprehends the following.

CLASS MAMMALIA.

- Alpine Mastiff. *Canis familiaris*, Linn., var.
 Gray's Paradoxure. *Paradoxurus Grayi*, Benn.
 Chimpanzee. *Simia Troglodytes*, Linn.
 Bonneted Monkey, albino. *Macacus radiatus*, Lacép., var.
 Harnessed Antelope. *Antelope scripta*, Pall.
 Brush-tailed Kangaroo. *Macropus penicillatus*, Gray.
 Quebec Marmot. *Arctomys Empetra*, Schreb.
 Trebizond Marmot. *Spermophilus xanthoprymna*, Benn.
 Cape Ground Squirrel. *Geosciurus Capensis*, Smith.
 Grey Squirrel, albino. *Sciurus cinereus*, Linn., var.
 Cape Sheep. *Ovis Aries*, Linn., var.

CLASS AVES.

- Ring Ousel. *Turdus torquatus*, Linn.
 Wheatear. *Saxicola Œnanthe*, Bechst.

- Blackbird, albino. *Turdus Merula*, Linn., var.
 Sparrow, albino. *Passer domesticus*, Briss., var.
 Red-crested Cardinal. *Loxia Dominicana*, Linn.
 Blue-headed Parrot. *Psittacus cæruleocephalus*, Lath.
 Red-sided Parrot. *Psittacus Sinensis*, Linn.
 Black-throated Pigeon. *Columba Capensis*, Linn.
 Cyrus Crane. *Grus Antigone*.
 White-masked Duck. *Anas viduata*, Lath.

With these additions to the Lists contained in the previous Reports of the Council, the total number of species of *Mammalia* which has been exhibited in the Menagerie, up to the present time, is 227, and that of *Birds* is 310.

The Council are now looking forward with considerable interest to the completion of an attempt in which the Society is engaged for the importation of several

Giraffes,

which they hope to see added to the Menagerie in a very few weeks. In the earlier years of the Society's existence the acquisition of this singular and rare animal was among the most important objects to which the attention of the Council was directed, and they made many inquiries as to the most probable means of effecting it, and even named a price which would be paid for one or two of them on their being delivered, in good health, at the Society's Gardens. In 1833 the inquiries were again resumed through Mr. Bouchier, of Malta, to whose valuable aid on numerous occasions the Society is almost incessantly indebted. Through his intervention, and the kindness of Col. Campbell, His Majesty's Consul General for Egypt, an arrangement was made towards the close of that year with M. Thibaut, who was then at Cairo, and who agreed to proceed to Nubia for the purpose of procuring Giraffes on the Society's account. The terms of his engagement imposed on him the whole risk of the undertaking previously to the delivery of

the animals in Malta: and it was not until his landing of them in that island that he was entitled to receive the stipulated price, which was fixed at a rate for each individual, diminishing in proportion to the number that he should succeed in bringing with him.

M. Thibaut has been singularly successful in his enterprise. He quitted Cairo in April 1834, bearing a firman from the Pacha of Egypt, and reached in August the Desert of Kordofan; where he soon made himself master of five young Giraffes. Four of these having been killed in the Desert on his return to Dongolah, by the severe weather of December, he determined on remaining in that neighbourhood until he had procured others; and having subsequently captured three, he proceeded down the Nile with his valuable and interesting charge, and reached Malta in safety with four Giraffes, three males and one female, on the 21st of November last. After a quarantine of twenty-five days, the animals were removed to convenient quarters, granted for their use by the Governor at the instance of Mr. Bouchier; and they have since remained there, continuing, at the date of the last advices, in perfect health and in improving condition. Having thus fulfilled his engagements with the Society, M. Thibaut became entitled to receive the stipulated remuneration, £700, which has accordingly been paid to him. But the Council have considered it so desirable to avail themselves of his experience with respect to these valuable animals, that they have arranged with him for the continuance of his services until their arrival in England; and have undertaken, moreover, to make to him on his arrival a handsome present, proportioned to his eventual success.

For the conveyance of the Giraffes to England, the Council have availed themselves of a favourable opportunity offered by the *Manchester*, a steam-vessel of great size and power, which proceeded to Lisbon at the commencement of the present month, having been specially engaged for the service of Prince Ferdinand of Portugal. From Lisbon the

Manchester was to proceed to Malta, where she is probably at this time; and as soon as the necessary fittings are completed, and the animals are embarked, she will return to London. Her arrival may be expected before the end of May. For the conveyance of the animals to England £1000 are to be paid, such being the estimated expenses of the vessel during the time that she will be engaged specially on the Society's service beyond the limits of her ordinary line, which extends no further than Gibraltar: within that line the conveyance is regarded by the owners as gratuitous. The necessary fittings to be made in her for the accommodation of the Giraffes, will be prepared at the cost of the Society in His Majesty's Dock Yard at Malta, orders to that effect having been sent thither by the Lords of the Admiralty.

On lives so precarious the Council have felt unwilling to engage the Society's means to a greater amount than that now reported; and they readily acceded to a suggestion made to them by the Committee, to whom they have entrusted the consideration of the several arrangements connected with this undertaking, to defer until after the arrival of the animals any extensive preparations for their reception. It was proposed to secure for their use, in the first instance, a riding-school or other capacious building; but circumstances having prevented the carrying of the resolution into effect, it is now intended to accommodate them in one of the buildings already existing at the Gardens, to which they will offer a considerable additional attraction.

Donations to the Menagerie.

In the course of the past year His Majesty has been again pleased to manifest the interest taken by him, as its Patron, in the Society, by several valuable presents.

To his munificence it has been indebted for several animals of interest, some of which were collected by the officers of the expedition now engaged on the Survey of the Euphrates;

and especially for a fine young female Elephant. The acquisition of the latter has enabled the Council to afford aid, on behalf of the Society, to the sister Society in Dublin, by lending to that institution the female Elephant which was previously in the Gardens: she has reached her destination in safety, and the thanks of the Dublin Zoological Society have been returned for the kindness shown to them in adding to their exhibition so important and interesting an animal.

Among the other Donors to the Menagerie the Council have again to place in the first rank Sir Thomas Reade, His Majesty's Consul General at Tunis, to whose extreme liberality they have before had occasion repeatedly to direct the attention of the Members. The Society owes to him since the last Anniversary four Camels, two of which were of the white and two of the dark variety; a pair of Ostriches; three Eagles; a Kolbe's Vulture; two Fezzan Sheep; and two Porcupines: and a Lioness, recently presented by him, is now awaiting at Malta a favourable opportunity for transmission to England. To other Corresponding Members the Society has also been indebted, and especially to Capt. Heathorn for an Indian Crane, an Antelope, and an Axis Deer; to Keith E. Abbott, Esq., for a Marmot and three fowls of the Herat breed; to Capt. Deloitte, for a brush-tailed Kangaroo; to Capt. Redman; and to J. Hearne, Esq. The Society is also under renewed obligations to the President, the Earl of Derby, for several additions to its Menagerie. It owes to Admiral Sir Thomas Briggs the present of a pair of Ostriches; to Alexander Brandt, Esq., a pair of Rein Deer; to Lieut. Smythe and Frederick Lowe, Esq., a Harpy Eagle, an Ocelot, and various Birds; to J. Stuart, Esq., two Silver Foxes; to Mrs. Pennington, an Antelope; to Robert Dick, Esq., a Jaguar and a Tortoise; to William Simpson, Esq., a bush Kangaroo; to B. King, Esq., two Quebec Marmots; to Isaac Currie, Esq., two Fallow Deer; to William Rotheray, Esq., a Malabar Squirrel; to C. Kerry Nicholls, Esq., various animals; to W. J. Adams,

Esq., a white bonneted Monkey; to Lord Tyrconnel, a Golden Eagle; to Capt. Edie, a Cape Squirrel; to Capt. Chase, a Nicobar Pigeon; to Vice-Admiral Douglas, a purple Gallinule and a Touraco; and to numerous other Members and Friends it is indebted for other presents of various interest. Among these the Council would particularly mention the Duke of Marlborough; Lord Dundonald; Viscountess Canning; Major-General Sir Herbert Taylor; Capt. Henning; Thomas Beale, Esq.; W. T. Brand, Esq.; John Kay, Esq.; Sir George Farrant; J. Hoffman, Esq.; G. Penny, Esq.; Lady Seymour; H. B. Hillier, Esq.; W. Taylor, Esq.; J. C. Cox, Esq.; T. O. Perkins, Esq.; Lady Clare; and Capt. Moore.

As connected with the Menagerie the Council have further to report that they have again, in compliance with the wishes of the Fellows as expressed at the General Meeting of the Society in February last, directed their attention to the

Institution of Premiums

for the introduction and breeding of rare and valuable animals. In 1832, when this subject was first determined on, circumstances intervened to prevent its being immediately carried into effect: but it is now hoped that a sum not exceeding £100 annually may be advantageously employed in encouraging such objects. In furtherance of this view the Council have appointed a Committee, the result of whose inquiries and suggestions will be communicated to the Society as soon as their Report is received.

The appointment of the Committee just referred to is of recent date. Another Committee connected with the Menagerie has been in operation for a considerable time, having been engaged on an inquiry into the health and treatment of the animals generally. It has made to the Council several Reports on some of the subjects that were referred to it, and has collected much valuable evidence, especially on the two important points of warming and ventilation. The im-

provements effected in many of the buildings at the Gardens, as regards their ventilation, have been chiefly owing to the information derived from the inquiries of this Committee.

THE MUSEUM

has been enriched during the last year, equally with the Menagerie, by numerous Donations, the particulars of which are explained in the Donation Book now on the table. Among the

Donors to the Museum

the Council are bound more especially to mention several valuable Corresponding Members, including B. H. Hodgson, Esq., of Nepal, from whom have been received forty-four additional Birdskins of the country to the zoology of which he has devoted himself; M. Julien Desjardins, who has given a collection of Birds, Fishes, and other animals of the Mauritius; the Rev. R. T. Lowe, a collection of Fishes from Madeira; Keith E. Abbott, Esq., numerous specimens from Trebizond; J. B. Harvey, Esq., many of the marine productions of the south coast of Devon; Sir T. Reade; J. Hearne, Esq.; Lieut. Breton, R.N.; and J. Parkinson, Esq., of Bahia. The Society has also been indebted to J. J. Audubon, Esq., for the skins of twenty-four Birds and seven Quadrupeds collected by him in North America and not previously in the Museum; to Philip Poole, Esq., for an extensive collection formed by him at Travancore, comprising eleven Mammals, ninety-eight Birds, and six Saurian Reptiles; to Edward Jesse, Esq., for thirteen skins of Birds and one of a Quadruped from Africa; to Alexander MacLeay, Esq., for the skin of an *Apteryx*; to C. Kerry Nicholls, Esq., for various presents; and to Capt. Edie, Capt. Chase, P. C. Blakett, Esq., T. Bell, Esq., and numerous others.

A donation of especial interest and value has been made to the Museum by Mr. Cuming, who has presented a com-

plete series of the *Crustacea* collected by him on the Western Coasts of South America and among the Islands of the South Pacific Ocean. Many of these present new forms and species, which have been to some extent characterized by Mr. Bell in the Proceedings and Transactions of the Society, and have consequently become, in a measure, scientifically identified with it.

With the same gentleman an arrangement has been entered into by which the Society is entitled to become possessed, for the purposes of exhibition, of his highly valuable and extensive conchological stores, to which the name of the

Cumingian Collection of Shells

is to be attached, if within ten years adequate accommodation be provided for the display of the entire series in glazed cases, to the satisfaction of himself or of the Trustees in whom the property will be vested. The extent of the collection and its high scientific value may be, in some measure, estimated by the large number of new species that have been described from it, by Mr. Broderip and Mr. G. B. Sowerby, in the Proceedings and Transactions for several years past. A more precise idea will, however, be formed from the statement that it contains fully 6000 species, and generally from three to ten specimens of each species; and that its estimated value amounts to upwards of £3000. It is agreed with Mr. Cuming that on the collection being deposited with the Society for the purposes of exhibition, a Curator of it shall be appointed: the first Curator to be so appointed being Mr. Cuming himself, at the annual salary of £200. Under this stipulation the arrangement cannot, of course, be brought into full operation until his return from the Philippines, whither he has recently proceeded, principally for the purpose of adding to this, his favourite, collection: but where he will also collect in other departments of natural history, for which he is so well qualified by his previous experience. In the mean time, and indeed until the final completion of the

arrangement, a power is reserved to the Society to put an end to the agreement on giving to Mr. Cuming a certain notice.

The Council have now to congratulate the Members on the

Acquisition of a Museum

more adequate for the display of the extensive and valuable collection of preserved animals possessed by the Society. It would be useless on this occasion to refer to the various attempts that have been made for several years past for the attainment of this desirable object, or to advert to the causes which prevented the completion of the negotiation for other premises that was pending at the time of the last Annual Report. Renewed inquiries became necessary in consequence, and they have ended in the engagement of extensive premises in Leicester Square, which appear to be, in most points of view, well adapted for the present purposes of the Society: the spot itself is connected with the history of the progress in England of that essential branch of Zoology, Comparative Anatomy, as the house and Museum of John Hunter. In well arranged rooms and galleries, lighted from the top, the new Museum affords accommodation for more than twice the extent of cases that could be crowded into the rooms hitherto occupied in Bruton Street: and the consequence will be the immediate exhibition of the most extensive series of *Mammalia* and *Birds* that is yet open to public view in this kingdom, occupying a series of cases 460 feet in length. The fittings are now proceeding rapidly; and they will be completed to the extent necessary for the reception of those classes in less than a month. The Museum, which is for the present closed, will then be reopened with greatly increased attractions, and the Council anticipate that the number of Visitors to it will be so large as to produce a considerable addition to the Society's Income.

The increased extent of the Museum, and the importance of completing catalogues of the objects contained in its seve-

ral departments, and of registering more correctly the accessions to it, have rendered necessary an increase in the establishment both of persons in charge of it and of attendants. But it is hoped that the additional outlay may be more than compensated by the increased Receipts: while a greater number of competent officers must obviously be advantageous in securing better attention to the preservation and exhibition of the specimens, and in rendering them more available for the purposes of science. The possession of an extensive and accessible collection is obviously of the highest importance to a Society whose object is the advancement of Zoology in all its departments; and a Museum formed accordingly one of the essential requisites for the prosecution of the study insisted on by the Members who first constituted the Society. Hitherto the arrangements of the Museum have been on so economical a scale that the expenditure has not amounted, on an average of the ten years that have elapsed since its foundation, to £700 annually. With the increased powers now devoted to it, its utility may be confidently expected to become very considerably advanced.

The premises in Leicester Square have been taken on lease determinable, at the option of the Society, at the expiration of three, five, seven, ten, or fourteen years. The Society consequently cannot long be burthened with the rent payable for them, in the event of more extensive and commodious premises being at any time attainable on advantageous terms.

The rent is £400 annually. The premium paid for the lease was £450, and the cost of the fixtures, taken at a valuation, was £150. The fittings already ordered amount to about £1200, independent of some incidental charges of minor moment.

The number of

Visitors to the Museum

in Bruton Street was, in 1835, 4138; and the money received

for admissions £52 11s. : an amount extremely small, as compared with some of the earlier years of the establishment, when with fewer objects the exhibition was more attractive than it has been of late in that crowded condition which gave to it rather the confused air of a store than the appearance of an arranged Museum.

THE FARM

remains nearly in the same condition as at the last Anniversary : the leasehold portion of it is underleased on precisely the same terms as to rent and other covenants as those on which the Society holds it ; and of the freehold portion the two inclosed fields have been recently let for the season. The only current expense accruing under this head, is a small weekly payment to a labourer for keeping some of the fences in order ; the fences of the two fields being in the care of the tenant.

With a view to the sale of the land by auction, the Council have thought it advisable to redeem the Land Tax chargeable on it. But they have since been influenced by local circumstances that have been reported to them to postpone, for the present, the submitting of the property to public sale.

It now only remains for the Council to direct the attention of the Members more particularly to the annexed

Report of the Auditors

of the Accounts for 1835, and to express, in common with the Society at large, their thanks for the diligence and accuracy with which those gentlemen have discharged the laborious duties imposed upon them.

That Report refers exclusively to the Accounts of the past year : but as the Council conceive that it may be of interest to many of the Members to have submitted to them at

one view a general statement of the financial operations of the Society from its commencement, they subjoin an Abstract of the Income and Expenditure up to December 31, 1835.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1825-6. Receipts	1829	14	0	1825-6. Payments.. ...	683	4	7
1827. —————	4079	1	0	1827. —————	4381	17	1
1828. —————	11515	0	0	1828. —————	10044	19	4
1829. —————	13994	9	0				
Profit on stock sold }	39	9	6				
	14033	18	6	1829. —————	11314	18	11
1830. —————	15781	0	10				
Profit on stock sold }	177	0	4				
	15958	1	2	1830. —————	19270	15	6
1831. Receipts	17562	16	10	1831. —————	15913	4	4
1832. ————— ..	15493	6	9	1832. —————	13006	6	1
1833. —————	14843	5	3	1833. —————	13152	9	6
1834. —————	16833	15	1	1834. —————	12980	11	6
1835. —————	16033	2	9	1835. —————	13330	11	4
				Loss on Exchqr. Bills sold	11	8	9
				Total payments to Dec.			
				31, 1835.....	114090	6	11
				Cost of 3 Per Cents..	10760	11	1
				Cost of Land	1100	0	0
				Cost of Well to Dec.			
				31, 1835	1371	13	2
				Cash in hand	859	10	2
Total Receipts					128182	1	4
to Dec. 31, 1835.	128182	1	4				

RECEIPTS.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Balance of Cash brought from 1834							527	6	0
INCOME.									
Belonging to year.									
1829 Annual Subscriptions				2	0	0			
1830 Annual Subscriptions				2	0	0			
1831 Annual Subscriptions				18	0	0			
1832 Annual Subscriptions				54	0	0			
1833 { Admission Fees	30	0	0						
Annual Subscriptions	157	0	0						
				187	0	0			
1834 { Admission Fees	205	0	0						
Annual Subscriptions	377	0	0						
				582	0	0			
1835 { Admission Fees	1080	0	0						
Annual Subscriptions	4756	0	0						
Ivory Tickets	364	7	0						
Admissions to Gardens	7343	6	0						
Admissions to Museum	52	11	0						
Garden Guides.....	122	10	0						
Garden Sales	70	4	10						
Dividends on Bank Annuities, &c.....	322	8	8						
Transactions	289	7	6						
Proceedings	16	1	4						
Farm Sales	12	0	0						
Profit on India Bonds.....	9	6	5						
Rent (Garden)	150	0	0						
Rent (Farm)	60	0	0						
				14648	2	9			
1836 Annual Subscriptions (anticipated)				60	0	0			
INCOME RECEIVED IN 1835.....				15553	2	9			
Sale of £1000 Exchequer Bills				1028	15	0			
Compositions				480	0	0			
Total Receipts in 1835				17061	17	9	17061	17	9
							17589	3	9

PAYMENTS.

		Farm.	Gardens.	Museum.	General Establishmt.	Total.
EXPENDITURE.						
Belonging to year.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1834	Rent, &c.	40 7 3	674 4 10	33 15 0	33 15 0	782 2 1
	Bills, &c.....	84 2 0	406 6 4	9 11 0	221 19 4	721 18 8
		124 9 3	1080 11 2	43 6 0	255 14 4	1504 0 9
1835						
	Rent, &c.....	30 0 0	258 5 2	124 2 4	128 12 4	
	Salaries and Wages.....		2465 0 3	306 10 5	654 0 10	
	Keepers' Dresses.....		67 2 0			
	Cost of Animals.....		186 3 2			
	Carriage of Animals.....		274 2 6			
	Keepers' Travelling Expenses.....		6 11 0			
	Provisions.....		1641 8 10			
	Menagerie Expenses.....		483 14 0			
	Buildings.....		550 0 0			
	Works, &c.....		2454 11 2	202 15 0	6 0 0	
	Garden Expenses.....		523 14 4			
	Cost of Subjects.....			165 19 0		
	Carriage of Subjects.....			11 3 7		
	Cost of Preparations.....			109 13 11		
	House and Office Expenses.....		59 5 7		197 18 11	
	Stationery and Printing.....		41 9 6		416 8 10	
	Transactions.....				433 17 11	
	Returned Subscriptions.....				28 0 0	
Paid on account of the current year.....		30 0 0	9011 7 6	920 4 3	1864 18 10	11,826 10
EXPENDITURE PAID IN 1835.....		154 9 3	10091 18 8	963 10 3	2120 13 2	13,330 11
Cost of £3088 17s. 8d. Reduced 3 per Cents.....						2803 3
Paid on account of Well.....						595 19
Total payments in 1835.....						16,729 13
Cash in hand, Dec. 31, 1835.....						859 10
						17,589 3

The Assets and Liabilities of the Society on the 31st December, 1835, were as follow :

ASSETS.

	Living and Preserved Collections.	Arrears of			Invested in Land.	Capital Funded.	Cash at the Banker's, &c.
		Previous Years.	Current Year.				
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
Cash in hand						859 10 2	
£7535 12s. 1d. Consol ^d 3 } per Cents					6430 16 1		
£4756 14s. 2d. Reduced 3 } per Cents					4329 15 0		
Cost of Land at Kingston Hill				1100 0 0			
Annual Subscriptions			408 0 0				
Ivory Tickets		18 18 0					
Farm Rent			15 0 0				
Garden Rent			60 0 0				
Garden Stock sold, unpaid for.			13 15 0				
Uncertain.		18 18 0	496 15 0	1100 0 0	10760 11 1	859 10 2	

LIABILITIES.

	Debts.		Contracts Pending.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Bills, &c. unpaid, estimated			
For the Farm.....	16 8 10		
Gardens	502 6 11		1366 0 0
Museum	9 8 6		
General Establishment	297 14 11		
		825 19 2	
Rent, &c. unpaid, say for the Farm.....	30 0 0		
Gardens	572 8 2		
Museum	41 5 9		
General Establishment	41 5 9		
		684 19 8	
		1510 18 0	1366 0 0

The Auditors have great satisfaction in bearing testimony to the general accuracy of the books and accounts of the Society, and in expressing their approbation of the system on which the books are arranged, and of the diligence and zeal which appear to pervade the departments connected therewith.

In the General Expenditure for the past year, an increase of £350 has taken place, as compared with the preceding year: and in the General Receipts or Income of the Society, there is a falling off of about £800, owing partly to a decrease in the amount of sales of superfluous stock; partly to a somewhat less amount having been received for admission to the Gardens; but chiefly from a diminished amount received for compositions. The result, however, of the finances for the past year, shows an improvement of about £2000, as compared with the Assets and Liabilities of the preceding year.

It appears by the statement of Assets laid before the Auditors, that the actual increase in the Funded Capital of the Society during the past year, amounts to £2803 3s. 1d., including the amount purchased by the proceeds of the Exchequer Bill; in addition to which the sum of £595 19s. 2d. must be considered in the character of an investment, having been paid on account of works connected with the well: this, together with the sum of £775 14s. previously so invested in 1834, (in conformity with a resolution of Council,) makes a total sum of £1371 13s. 2d., paid on account of the well and its appendages: works undertaken with the view of lessening the annual cost of water, an article of indispensable necessity in the Gardens.

It will be evident, that this sum of £1371 13s. 2d., although treated as an investment for the above reason, is not actually a tangible and available asset, therefore is not included in

the table of Assets ; but the funded property is strictly an available and tangible capital.

Referring retrospectively to the Annual Report of the Council in April, 1832, the Auditors find it stated (in substance), "to be the intention of the Council to continue steadily the plan of investing one fifth of the Receipts of the Society, which plan appeared to have given such general satisfaction." The Auditors, therefore, beg leave to point out, that by this computation the amount due to the Investment Fund on January 1, 1835, amounted to £2598 11 9

To which add 1-5th of the gross Receipts
in 1835 £16033 2s. 9d. 3206 12 6

Making a total of 5805 4 3

The amount invested during the past year
has been as follows :

In Reduced 3 per Cents . . . £2803 3 1

On the Well account 595 19 2

————— 3399 2 3

Leaving due to the Investment Fund, Jan. 1, —————
1836 £2406 2 0

Thus reducing, in a small degree, the amount due to this Fund on Jan. 1, 1835.

While the Auditors express their gratification in finding an increase in the Funded Capital of the Society, they regret, that, owing to circumstances, maturely considered, as they trust, by the Council, they have been prevented in former years from carrying fully into effect the resolution already referred to, and introduced into their Annual Report in April, 1832.

In concluding their observations, the Auditors beg leave to state, respectfully, their firm opinion, that much of the future welfare, and perhaps the stability and permanency of

the Society, depend on the observance of strict economy, and following up the provident, and in their judgment, wise resolution of Council before referred to; and, thus promoting and confirming the inviolable preservation of this Fund.

RICHARD WALFORD.

P. CROSS.

JOHN HOFFMANN.

R. ISHERWOOD.

C. PERRING.

HENRY SMITH.

PETTY VAUGHAN.

33, *Bruton Street*, March 8th, 1836.

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ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON,

BRUTON STREET.—JUNE 8, 1836.

THE Committee to whom was referred, by a Minute of the Council dated May 18, 1836, a printed Statement by Mr. Pope on the affairs of the Zoological Society, as far as regards the financial part of such statement, having considered the same, beg leave unanimously to report as follows:

They find, on reference to the Minutes of the Council of August 3, 1831, that the Resolution there recorded on which the Investment Fund is founded, differs from the Statement made by Mr. Pope (page 3), in as much as the investment of one fifth of the Receipts in each month was thereby determined to be made, "provided a sufficient surplus be in hand to enable the Treasurer to do so."

In the Statement made by Mr. Pope, entitled "The Council in account with Investment Fund" (page 3), a sum of £1100 for land is included: this sum was paid for land before the creation of the Investment Fund; it has never been considered, either by the Council or the Auditors, as constituting part of that Fund.

In order to rectify this error, Mr. Pope has added, at the foot of the account referred to, the amount of the Exchequer Bill to the Balance, but with which it has no connexion.

In the General Cash Account (pages 4 and 5) Mr. Pope has omitted to include the cost of the Exchequer Bill, which he has charged on the Dr. side. He has also omitted to give credit for the money paid for the land, and expended on the Well.

The following account gives a full statement of the Cash transactions.

GENERAL CASH ACCOUNT.

<i>Dr.</i>		£.	s.	d.
1825-6.	Receipts	1,829	14	0
1827.	Ditto	4,079	1	0
1828.	Ditto	11,515	0	0
1829.	Ditto	13,994	9	0
	Profit on Stock sold	39	9	6
		<hr/>		
		14,033	18	6
1830.	Receipts.....	15,781	0	10
	Profit on Stock sold	177	0	4
		<hr/>		
		15,958	1	2
1831.	Receipts	17,562	16	10
1832.	Ditto	15,493	6	9
1833.	Ditto	14,843	5	3
1834.	Ditto	16,810	18	10
	Interest on Exchequer Bill	22	16	3
		<hr/>		
		16,833	15	1
1835.	Receipts	16,033	2	9
		<hr/>		
		<hr/>		
		£128,182	1	4

<i>Cr.</i>		£.	s.	d.
1825-6.	Payments	683	4	7
1827.	Ditto	4,381	17	1
1828.	Ditto	10,044	19	4
1829.	Ditto	11,314	18	11
1830.	Ditto	19,270	15	6
1831.	Ditto	15,913	4	4
1832.	Ditto	13,006	6	1
1833.	Ditto	13,152	9	6
1834.	Ditto	12,980	11	6
1835.	Ditto	13,330	11	4
	Cost of £2,000 Exchequer Bill, bought in 1834,	2,068	7	6
	Deduct proceeds of sale after one year's Interest on £1,000 re- ceived in 1834 per contra	2,056	18	9
		<hr/>		
		11	8	9
		<hr/>		
		114,090	6	11
	Cost of £7,535 12s. 1d. Cons. 3 per cents.	6,430	16	1
	Cost of £4,756 14s. 2d. Reduced 3 per cents.	4,329	15	0
		<hr/>		
		10,760	11	1
	Paid for Land.....	1,100	0	0
	Cost of Well to 31st December, 1835	1,371	13	2
		<hr/>		
		127,322	11	2
	Balance at Bankers on 31st December, 1835	859	10	2
		<hr/>		
		£128,182	1	4

It is evident from this Statement that there is no portion of the Society's Receipts which is unaccounted for; and with this remark the Committee might terminate its Report; but as it may be considered desirable that the financial state of the Society at the end of 1835 should again be explained, (although the account of Assets and Liabilities included in the Report of the Auditors (page 28) is fully adequate for the purpose), the Committee beg to subjoin a Balance Sheet of the

Society and Investment Fund together, Dec. 31, 1835.

OWING.			PROPERTY.		
	£.	s. d.		£.	s. d.
Debts.....	1,510	18 0	Cash in hand	859	10 2
Contracts pending for works, &c. in progress.....	1,366	0 0	3 per cent. Consols and Re- duced	10,760	11 1
	<u>2,876</u>	<u>18 0</u>	Land	1,100	0 0
Balance in favour of the So- ciety and Investment Fund together, in addition to living and preserved Col- lections; and Arrears of Subscriptions	9,843	3 3	Well		
	<u>£ 12,720</u>	<u>1 3</u>	Subscriptions in Arrears...		
				<u>£ 12,720</u>	<u>1 3</u>

It may be added, that on the day subsequent to that up to which this Balance Sheet is completed, Subscriptions for the ensuing year became due to the amount of £5476.

E. S. HARDISTY.
W. H. LLOYD.
W. H. SYKES.
P. VAUGHAN.
R. WALFORD.
C. A. M. WILLICH.
W. YARRELL.

May 31, 1836.