

London, January 1st 1871

Dear Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst. in relation to the proposed alterations in the regulations of the Society, and in reply to inform you that the same have been referred to the Committee, and that they will be reported to the next meeting of the Society, which will be held on the 14th inst. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. H. Sturges

Walter Duncanson  
and Andrew Fair  
Quaker Churchmen

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Museum Report

1855.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

Ordered by the Council to be Printed, 6 June, 1855.

REPORT of the Trustees of the Australian Museum, from the date of their Incorporation, 4 July, 1853, to 31 December, 1854.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, &c., &c.

The Trustees of the Australian Museum have the honor of submitting to your Excellency this, their first, Report.

Immediately after their Incorporation as Trustees, they gave their chief attention to the completion of the Museum Building, as, in the condition in which it was handed over to them, it was utterly unfit for the display of objects of Natural History.

The Colonial Architect (an Official Trustee) prepared plans for a gallery and other interior fittings, and under his inspection these plans were proceeded with, as far as the funds placed at the disposal of the Trustees would allow.

In September last year, application was made to this Board on the part of the Commissioners for the Paris Exhibition, for the use of the Great Hall of the Museum, in which to display the productions of the Colony prior to the transmission of them to Paris. This application being granted, the works of the Museum were entirely suspended till the end of the year.

A commodious Gallery round the Hall is now nearly completed, but the small balance of the money voted by the Legislative Council is insufficient to enable this Board to go on with the glass cases and other necessary fittings.

The Trustees are exceedingly desirous of proceeding with the permanent works of the Museum, but cannot do so without a further grant of money. The principal things remaining to be done are the construction of glass cases round the Hall, and cabinets on the floor of the Hall; the erection of a staircase to the gallery; the drainage of the building; and the flagging of the basement, so as to fit it for the reception of large objects.

The Trustees estimate the cost of these several works as follows:—

Glass cases round Gallery	...	...	...	...	...	£1,700	0	0	
Glass cases round Hall	...	...	...	...	...	1,460	0	0	
Cabinets for floor of Hall...	...	...	...	...	:	1,000	0	0	
Staircase, and necessary works connected therewith	...	...	...	...	...	300	0	0	
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	75	0	0	
Flagging the basement	...	...	...	...	...	436	0	0	
Total...							£4,971	0	0

During the past year the Museum has been enriched by many valuable donations, but the most of these cannot be displayed, and the public can derive very little benefit from the Museum until glass cases and cabinets be provided.

An account of the Expenditure of the sums voted by the Legislature during the years 1853 and 1854, towards the completion of the Museum, is given in appendix No. 1.

The Trustees have also the honor to subjoin another Appendix (No. 2), showing the Expenditure of the Annual Endowment of £1000, secured by Act of the Legislature, for the current expenses of the Museum.

The Board submit this as their Report to the end of 1854, and in testimony thereof have caused their Corporate Seal to be hereunto affixed, this seventh day of April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

W. S. MACLEAY,  
Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

GEORGE FRENCH ANGAS,  
Secretary to the Trustees of the Australian Museum.

### APPENDIX TO REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

#### No. 1.

#### BUILDING EXPENSES OF THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM, SINCE ITS INCORPORATION, JULY, 1853, TO DECEMBER 31, 1854.

1853.		£	s.	d.	1853.		£	s.	d.
Nov. 18	To Vote of the Legislative Council for 1853 .. .. .	500	0	0		Amount paid Abbott, on account of his contract for erecting the Gallery..	390	0	0
1854.					1854.				
Sept. 30	To Vote of the Legislative Council for 1854 .. .. .	2,000	0	0	Aug. 5	Amount paid Abbott, on account of his contract for erecting the Gallery..	1,326	12	3
						Bernaseconi, for mouldings, &c. . . . .	13	13	0
						Murray, for carving panels for Gallery .. . . .	60	0	0
						Interest on money borrowed at Bank .. . . .	14	6	6
						* By balance .. . . .	695	8	3
		2,500	0	0			2,500	0	0

\* Liability of the Trustees for contracts being presently carried out, £494 9s. 8d. Available balance, £200 18s. 7d.

#### No. 2.

#### CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM, FROM JULY 4, 1853, TO DECEMBER 31, 1854.

1853.		£	s.	d.	1853.		£	s.	d.
Sept. 8	To balance, handed over to the Trustees by the previous Committee of Management .. . . .	351	10	3		Salaries up to December 31st, 1853.. . . .	273	14	4
1854.						Stationery, &c. . . . .	4	10	2
Feb. 22	To cash, being one-fourth the Annual Endowment..	250	0	0	1854.	Incidental Expenses .. . . .	20	13	6
April 12	do. do. do. . . . .	250	0	0		Salaries during 1854 .. . . .	709	5	4
July 5	do. do. do. . . . .	250	0	0		Requisites for Curator .. . . .	28	13	9
Oct. 6	do. do. do. . . . .	250	0	0		do. do. Secretary, &c. . . . .	22	18	10
Dec. 22	To cheque from Beaumont for cages of Tiger, &c. . . . .	50	19	0		Expenses connected with the living Animals, now removed to Botany Bay..	60	3	6
						Keeping Grounds in order..	13	16	0
						Incidental expenses, such as carriage, water, &c. . . . .	19	13	1
						By balance .. . . .	249	0	9
		1,402	9	3			1,402	9	3